

**4th National Polonus
Meeting/Exhibition
March 24 - 26, 2006**

by: Hank Bieniecki

It is time to start planning to participate in the 4th National Polonus Exhibition/Meeting which will be held in conjunction with the Garfield-Perry March Party (one of the top 5 APS shows) in Cleveland, Ohio. Bulletin 520 (mailing in early October) will contain a detailed article about this event.

The Garfield-Perry Bourse (50+ dealers) and the Exhibition are held at the Masonic Auditorium, East 36th St & Euclid Ave, Cleveland.

The Show Hotel is the Holiday Inn Select City Center Lakeshore, 1111 Lakeside Ave, Cleveland, OH 44114, (216) 241-5100. Sam Ginsburg researched Cleveland hotel rates and indicates that the special Garfield-Perry rate of \$95.00 at the Holiday Inn is the best rate available. The Friday evening Polonus Social Event and the Saturday evening Awards dinner will be held at this hotel. We recommend members plan to stay there. This Holiday Inn is 3 blocks from the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and near the River Front.

If you need more information contact Chris Kulpinski via email at chris@kulpinski.com or call him at (480) 585-7114.

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President

Chris Kulpinski, 9350 E. Palm Tree Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Vice-President

Jan Niebrzydowski, 186 Smith Street
New Britain, CT 06053

Secretary

Roman Sobus, 1110 N. Oakley Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60622

Treasurer

Hank Bieniecki, P.O. Box 2
Maryville, IL 62062

Directors

Dr. James Mazepa, *Chairman*
Bogdan Charlam
Dr. Jerzy Kupiec-Weglinski
Roy Koczarski
Roman Sobus

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Editor & Publisher

Hank Bieniecki

Co-Editor

Chris Kulpinski

Chief Senior Editor

Dr. James Mazepa

Senior/Contributing Editor

Dr. Conrad Straub

Senior Editor and Translator

Dr. Stanley T. Wlodek

Associate Editors

Sam Ginsburg
Roman Sobus

STUDY GROUPS

1918-1919 Provisional Issues

Dr. Conrad Straub

POW and DP Camps

Chris Kulpinski and Roman Sobus

Aero - Philately

Dr. Jerzy Kupiec and Dr. Jerzy Walocha

IN THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 2006 National Meeting/
Exhibition by Hank
Bieniecki</p> | <p>15 James Mazepa, PhD
Returns to Polonus by
Hank Bieniecki</p> |
| <p>3 President's Point of
View by Chris Kulpinski</p> | <p>18 Polish Postal History
by Stanley T. Wlodek</p> |
| <p>4 Essays - Kingdom of
Poland - Part II
Translated by
Stanley T. Wlodek</p> | |

FROM MY POINT OF VIEW

By: *Chris Kulpinski*
chris@kulpinski.net

The replies and comments generated by our membership in response to my report on the St. Louis Show have been informative. I was very pleased to learn that many of our members have email which will facilitate future communications.

With Bulletin 518 you received a Members Survey. I hope that you have already completed and mailed it back. I believe that communication among members with similar interests will become a key factor in the continued success of our Society. **If you misplaced your copy of the Survey, call or email me to request another copy.**

Let me address your two key questions: (1) Why wasn't my dues check cashed? (2) Why are the Bulletins late? The answer is simple. Work Overload! Hank Bieniecki has done most of this work for a number of years. However that work load is slowly being spread out among our members.

CHECKS: Jerry Zedlitz, a long time and highly qualified member, agreed in July to serve as Treasurer. Hank is working to transfer all necessary data. Before the end of the year, Jerry will take over the Treasurer function and all future dues will be sent to him. He will process checks monthly. More information on these changes will appear in future Bulletins.

BULLETIN: This is without question our most complex and time consuming function. I can not explain in this letter the complexity of publishing a Bulletin for a National Society. However as you can see on page 2, the Publication Committee continues to expand. At Hank's request I have assumed the function of Co-Editor. My primary task will be to supply material for publication in the Bulletin. Our members look forward to interesting and informative articles. They don't have to be technical. In future Bulletins I will provide examples of the type of articles we are looking for. More importantly I will work with any member who would like to write an article about any aspect of their philatelic interests. Just call or email me to get started.

The “Polish Kingdom” Essays from 1917 -Part II

Hans Reimann USA, and Adam Kielbasa-Schoeni Switzerland.

With new information added by the authors.

Translated from *Przegląd Filatelistyczny*, No. 10, (2004), page 8,
by Stanley T. Wlodek

Foldout “The Collection of The Postal Stamps of the Polish Kingdom”. From the submitted works the members of the jury selected 11 which were printed in 13 denominations and various colors. Seven essays stemmed from the works of Edmund Bartomiejczyk (EB) and four from the works of Edward Trojanowski (ET). This 3-page foldout is the last page stapled into the booklet and is titled “The Collection of the Postal Stamps of the Polish Kingdom as Selected by the Special Commission Composed of the Competitions Jury and Invited Experts” with the date January 11 1918 (See Figures 13-1, 13-2, 13-3 on pages 9 and 10).

All of the selected stamps were printed with a border that limited the size of the essays to 25 x 30 mm and 35 x 30 mm. The 3 Mk and 5 Mk values were printed on a yellow – grey background of the same size as the essay’s drawing. The other stamps were not reproduced in this manner. With the exception of the 3 F, 5 F, and 15 F values, all of the other values exhibited the initials “EB” or “ET”. These initials were not present on the original essays submitted for the competition (Figure 14)

Essays of the “Krolestwo Polskie (Polish Kingdom)” in the versions that we know them to-day, were created in a very brief time. In the period from November 1 1917 (the date by which the works had to be submitted) to January 11 1918 (the date by which the jury published its decision) the jury had to make the selection from the submitted works, award the prizes, and submit the selected material to the printers: The Graphic Works of B. Wierzbicki & Co. at 61 Chmielna St. – where the catalogs were printed using lithography.

Printing occurred in two phases, using two printing plates. The first was used to print the background, the second the actual essay

drawing. Due to the very simple printing technique the alignment of both of the two printing plates was not always optimum and thus we encounter various misregistrations between the drawing and the background. There is no doubt that to produce colored images of the selected essays new printing plates had to be prepared. Information as to the size of the printing stones was not preserved. It is known that for years the printing plates were retained in the stores of the Wierzbicki firm. Their ultimate fate, however, is not known.

Paper At least two types of paper, varying in thickness from 0.06 to 0.08 mm were used. The two paper variations can be differentiated by their surface characteristics: the grey-white paper with a smooth surface on both sides, and yellow-grey with a rough surface on the printed side. When viewed in transmitted light both types of paper exhibit nonuniform transparency in a grid pattern. Very rarely one can find watermarks. These are the watermarks of the manufacturer and one can find them in the bottom areas of the catalog. To this day, only the essays produced by E. Bartłomiejczyk and B. Wisniewski are found on the yellow –grey chalk paper with a vertically lined surface that, in transmitted light, shows an irregular grid of lighter areas. One also encounters single copies on similar paper of irregular thickness (0.10-0.11 mm) and with a two sided grid surface that are printed in colors identical to the prize winning essays (Figure 15). It is most likely that these are proofs.

The examples of these essays that one encounters in the philatelic marketplace have been cut from the catalog. Most frequently these essays are cut with very wide margins and those that were situated near the lower edge of the page show the page numbers in the margins. Unfortunately to complete all essays one would have to cut-up four catalogs.

Colors. As we have already stated, all of the essays contained in the catalogs were printed in four basic colors: blue, brown, green and black, all on a yellow grey background. Due to the simple method of printing these colors display various shades and nuances. We wish to mention those characteristic shades of colors which definitely did not occur due to chemical effects or light.

<u>Basic Colors</u>	<u>Shades</u>
blue	dark violet-ultramarine, blue-black,
brown	dark brown, brown-black,
green	dark grey-green, grey-green, light grey-green
yellow grey background	light yellow-grey

“Proofs” Unfortunately we are not able to be certain whether before printing the essays or the selection “The Collection of the Postal Stamps of the Polish Kingdom” trials were performed. Yet, because of the varying characteristics of certain positions we can, so as to underline their differences, refer to them as acceptance proofs. Without having access to the original data, we cannot determine when they were produced. Were they made before the printing of the original catalog, or later, before the printing of the first stamps of the reborn Republic? The determination of this fact is today impossible. We will thus only relate here what is known of the trial printings that were definitely not cut out from the catalogs.

S. Kronenberg [1] was the first to mention that the 20 fenig essay from page 3 of the catalog (the monument of John III Sobieski), created by Trojanowski, exists on thick, white, chalk paper. Machowski [2] went even further, stating that: “copies of this essay exist on thick, white, chalk paper, printed from zinc plates”. The E. Trojanowski essays (page 3 and 6 of the catalog) also exist in blue (Figure 16) in pairs, but with no background, on very thick (0.14 mm) yellow-white paper. In this form, They are not included in the PMP catalog

Finally, we would like to note the proofs of the accepted essays by E. Bartłomiejczyk, produced in different colors, on thin (0.06mm), white paper. Although some of these essays were printed in the colors used in the addendum of the chosen works, it is necessary to stress that these essays (Figure 17) were produced in different col-

ors and with different nominal values. In addition, these essays do not possess the previously mentioned initials.

New information has recently become available [3]. The regulations for the competition of the *Królestwo Polskie* stamps required the artists to submit sketches of their designs in the size of the proposed postage stamps. According to Grzyzewski [4], many artists went as far as to submit printed proofs of their designs. Bartłomiejczyk made a zinc plate with his three submissions arranged in three rows of four stamps. He then printed composite sheets in twelve different colors: dark blue, ultramarine, dark green, dark brown, emerald green, light carmine, dark carmine, violet, dark red, olive yellow brown and grey. The artist did not like the grey proof and abandoned this color after the first print. Figure 17 shows a selection of some of these proofs in different colors. The collection of the Postal Museum in Wrocław contains many more, including a plate of the twelve designs.

A complete sheet of the designs by Bartłomiejczyk was part of the Grabowski collection [5], described as "black on thick shiny paper". Another lot consisted of all ten designs by Trojanowski, all in black on thick shiny paper, with the largest unit a composite sheet of six.

Poland regained her freedom only 9 months after the essays were published. Due to the defeat of Germany, the prepared works that were selected to form the first series of the Polish Kingdom remained as projects. Some of the chosen and award winning works found application as models for the stamps of the re-born Republic. For example, for the first general series issued on January 27, 1919 the images that were selected came totally from some of the prize winning essays with only the heading "*Polska Poczta*" replacing "*Królestwo Polskie*". Two other essays "*The Sower*" created by B. Wisniewski and "*The Large Eagle*" (E. Trojanowski) served as models for the stamps issued in 1921. As we do not regard this subject closed, we ask fellow philatelists to submit new, hitherto unreported information, on the further history of the essays of the "*Polish Kingdom*".

Epilogue

The comment of Lt. Colonel R. N. W. Larking [6], the famous philatelist, which he wrote 12 years after these events, deserves

ESSAYS

mention. It is quite possible that he had the opportunity to discuss these events with those that witnessed them and to gather interesting documentation. Yet his observation that he saw a cancelled series of these essays has not, to-date, been further documented. Larking wrote:

Thirteen designs were subsequently chosen from among those by M. Edmund Bartłomiejczyk and M. Edward Trojanowski. On the eleventh of January, 1918, the Society of Artists in Warsaw issued a booklet containing all the designs reproduced in half-tone or line, together with an inset containing the thirteen chosen designs in color. Shortly after this, the Imperial Printing Works, Berlin, had the designs engraved, the thirteen chosen designs were struck off in color, and the remainder in black on India paper. These were mounted on a triple cardboard folder and circulated amongst the various German Embassies and Legations then existing in Europe for their information.

What did Larkin mean by "essays mounted on triple weight carton stock"? The authors are familiar with about 20 pages which could be classified as cut-out from the catalog with the essays in black and three pages of colored essays all on thick paper. Unfortunately, the covers and the title and pages with the text are missing. A detailed examination of the thick paper allowed us to determine that it consists of two layers, the first with a thickness of 0.08 mm bears the printed image, the second a support layer of 0.1mm.

Machowski [2] and Steczynski [7] are of the opinion that the "black essays" must be considered separately. According to Larking and Machowski the catalogs with the black essays must be considered as the "Berlin printing". However, catalogs with the notation of the Imperial Printers have, to date, not been reported. Subsequent authors have modified this position, stating that the designation of the Warsaw printing should be limited to three colors: blue, brown and green, while the black essays should be regarded as the Berlin printing. As one can find black essays in catalogs identified as printed by Wierzbicki & Co. and also bearing the marking WTA on the covers we are of the opinion that this is sufficient evidence that all four types of the catalog were first printed in Warsaw and the earlier thesis cannot be supported.



Figure 13-1. Section 1 of Color Foldout of the Selected Postage Stamps.



Figure 13-2. Section 2 of Color Foldout of the Selected Postage Stamps.



Figure 13-3. Section 3 of Color Foldout of the Selected Postage Stamps.

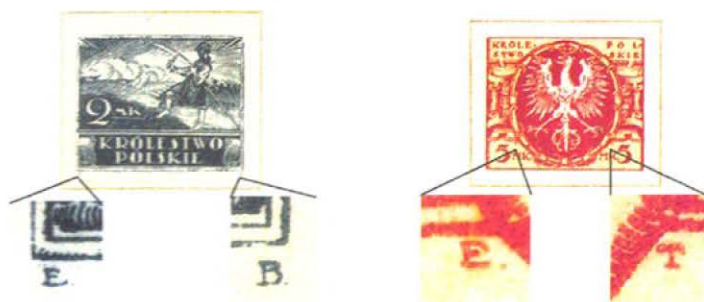


Figure 14. The Initials of the Artists.



Figure 15. The Essay Produced on Thick, Yellow – Grey, Chalk Paper (E. Bartłomiejczyk).



Figure 16. The Essays of E. Trojanowski with a Different Design Produced on Thick Chalk Paper.



Figure 17. The Essays of E. Bartłomiejczyk Produced in Different Colors.

ESSAYS

Bibliography continued from page 519-14

- Ministerstwo Łacznosci, "400 Lat Poczty Polskiej", Wydawnictwo Komunikacyjne, Warszawa, 1958, page 372 and 373.
- Tadeusz Goldman, "Nie Zrealizowane Projecty Znaczkow Polskich z Zamkiem Warszawskim z 1917 roku, " Filatelista 1979, pages 490 – 492.
- Adam Kielbasa – Schoni, "Essays Konigreich Polen", Mitteilungsblatt Arge Polen", No. 27, 1994, page 22 - 35.
- Bernd Hartz, "Erganzung zum Fachaufsatz Polen", Mitteilungsblatt Arge Polen", No. 40, 1999, page 45.
- Bernd Hartz, "Krolestwo Polskie – Eine Geplante Markenausgabe fur Eine Konigreich Pollen – 1917/1918". Rundbrief der Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutsche Besetzung im 1. Weltkrieg, No. 6 June 2002, pages 337 – 353.

POLISH POSTAL HISTORY



*Wodry mo
W dniu tak wielkim dla Nas, pragniemy Wasz miły brat
wiecistwo aby Pan Bóg z tym wasz wspaniałym iście mo
nie opuszczał a wiecistwo Wasze było wiecem dla innych
Tego Nam z serca życzy Wasza Księżka
Apollonia Wronkiewicz*

Figure 2. A portrayal of the monuments to the great Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz in all of the main towns of Partitioned Poland, printed by Antony Rose Printers in Poznan. Used to send wedding congratulations.

To quote Marian Ways [8]: *In February of 1919, the Polish Philatelic Society, taking advantage of the available plates of these stamps, proposed to the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs the issuing of a series on the occasion of the First Constitutional Assembly. Initially this suggestion was well received by the then current Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Hubert Lindego, who was also a philatelist and a honorary member of the Warsaw PTF. Projects for four stamps, which were to have "Krolestwo Polskie" changed to read "Pocztą Polska" and next to the town names the addition "Sejm 9.II.1919" were delivered to the Minister. The planned issue, however did not come to fruition and the series was issued using other designs.*

During the then current "First Polish Stamp Exhibition" semi-postal stamps were sold with a premium intended for the Polish White Cross [9]. In philatelic circles it has long been rumored that this organization was given an appreciable number of bound catalogs and cut-out essays. The items that are still preserved to this day, are believed to largely originate from the sale of this material by the Society of the White Cross. Unfortunately, no original documentation of this has been preserved.

We cannot preclude, with complete certainty, that the selected items pertain to issues that were created to bilk the collector. With some sorrow we must state that the lack of written records, and the effect of time, will not allow the verification of some of these interesting theses. As always, we appeal to our fellow philatelists to supplement this information. We did not succeed in finding, in the existing literature, satisfying answers to the questions pertaining to the "Berlin Printing", "proofs" and "examples" intended for German Consulates.

References to Part II

1. Stanley Kronenberg "Poland No. 5 (Sobieski) and its Essays", *Polonus Bulletin* No. 399, July – August 1983, pages 5-6.
2. J. Machowski, "The First Definitive Issue", *Polish Philatelic Review*, 1958-1959. reprinted in *Polonus Bulletin*, No.411, July–

ESSAYS

- August 1985, pages 9–11, and September–October, 1985, pages 4–10.
3. Dudzinski, "Prewar Issues of Poland 1918-1939", Stamp collection in the Postal History Museum of Wrocław. The holdings of the museum are not yet cataloged. The collection was accidentally discovered by one of the authors (AKS).
 4. Kazimierz Grzyzewski, "Probne Znaczki Wydan Minist. Pocz. i Telegrafow", *Filatelista Polski*, No. 3, 1921.
 5. "Wojciech Grabowski Collection of Poland", Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers, New York NY, October 20 2004 Auction, Lots 66 and 68.
 6. R. N. W. Larking, "Poland, The Postal Issues During and After The Great War, Part VI, The First Definitive Issue" *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, March 1930, pages 112-115. reprinted in *Polonus Bulletin* No's 81-86 and 88-100.
 7. M. E. Steczynski, "Poland's Hall of Fame", *Stamps*, March 13 1943, pages 381–383. reprinted in *Polonus Bulletin*, No. 15, November 1943.
 8. Marian Ways, "Pierwsze Projecty Znaczkow Polskich", *Filatelista*, 1964, No.15, pages 326-327.
 9. The International Red Cross, headquartered, in Switzerland, would not grant the Polish Red Cross, being formed during World War I in the USA, affiliation with the International world wide organization. In support of her husband's wishes, Helena Padarewska (1856–1934), I. Padarewski's second wife, therefore organized the Polish White Cross.

Bibliography

Other pertinent publications listed in the order of their publication:

- Warszawskie Towarzystwo Artystyczne, "Polskie Marki Pocztowe", Competition Catalog, (1918).
- J. J. Domar and Dr. E. H. Lewandowski, "Poland's 10 Mark Sower Stamp", *Polonus Bulletin* No. 4, (1941) pages 7 – 11. Corrections page 22.
- John Adamson, "Polish Philately" *Polonus Bulletin*, No. 24, September 1944.

Bibliography continued on page 519-12

JAMES MAZEPA, PhD, ACCEPTS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

by: Hank Bieniecki

I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Jim Mazepa, a long-time friend and a key member of the inner circle of Polonus in Chicago, agreed during meetings with me at St. Louis Expo to accept an Honorary Membership in our Society. In conversations after Expo Jim agreed to serve as the Chairman of our Board of Directors, and also take on the role of Chief Senior Editor. His acceptance of these key positions is a clear indication that our Society has come a long way since 1999. Given his reputation within the national and international philatelic community, his involvement in numerous philatelic organizations and his philatelic expertise Dr. Mazepa is ideally suited to help us continue the growth of the Polonus Philatelic Society.



Following is Dr. Mazepa's biography which validates why Polonus is fortunate to have someone with his background and skills as a member and leader in our Society.

Jim was born in Gary, Indiana, in 1941. He is the second generation of Polish immigrant grandparents, who arrived from the Lublin area and Western Ukraine in the early part of the last century.

His scholastic record includes:

Undergraduate degree in history and graduate degree in contemporary philosophy from Loyola University, Cincinnati

PhD in family psychology from University of Chicago and University of Illinois as well as a two year fellowship at Northwestern University's Center for Family Studies.

After receiving his PhD Jim had a 30 year professional career that included Director of Marital and Family Psychology at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Loyola University, Chicago, and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Pritzger School of Medicine of the University of Chicago and subsequently entered private practice. After thirty years in the practice of individual, marital, and family psychology, he and his wife, Jean, moved from the Chicago area to Sarasota, FL where Jim began a new career as a financial advisor with a focus on assisting philatelists and their families with their estate plans.

Jim has been a stamp collector since he was ten years old. He recalls soaking Polish stamps off letters his grandparents received after the war. Twenty years later he realized he discarded many of the rare provisional cancellations that were used before the official posts were established in Poland! Polish philately had always been foremost among his varied philatelic interests. He began to collect the prestamp period of Poland because no one wanted those old letters and they were cheap. Eventually, this grew into a major holding, especially of the pre 1815 period including royal letters, postmarks of the partitions, the Duchy of Warsaw, and Napoleonic mail. This collection was his first exhibition at POLPEX in Chicago in 1975. He was then invited to show this collection at the national exhibition in Lodz, Poland, in 1976, where he received a Gold medal.

Dr. Mazepa's interest gradually focused on Poland #1 and the use of Russian stamps in Poland. He formed an outstanding collection, selecting the best pieces from the Kozakewicz, Dohm, and Poulie collections. At the time, his Poland #1 collection ranked among the top three collections of the Kingdom of Poland, along with those of Bojanowicz and Mikulski. With the help of such dealers as Joe and Hank Bieniecki, and collectors such as Dr. Stanley Kronenberg, Jim was able to study the Poland #1 blue oval varieties and discov-

ered the type IV blue oval. He assembled what was probably the finest collection of the Warsaw Provisional and City Post stationery of 1859-60.

Subsequently Dr. Mazepa expanded his interest into Polish air mails. This area had been largely ignored with little available information. He did much of the seminal work in this area, along with Dr. DeGrave of Brugges, Belgium, and Mr. di Silveira of Lisbon, Portugal, both of whom were leading experts in world aero philately. When he received a Gold Medal for his Polish Air Mail exhibit in Madrid, Mr. di Silveira commented that this was the first time a Polish air mail exhibit received a gold medal in FIP International competition.

Dr. Mazepa's philatelic interests have also included Russia, Ukraine, Central and South America, especially Mexico, and United States. He has received eleven International Large Gold or Gold medals, and twelve National Grand awards. In 1995 he was invited to exhibit at the prestigious "Claridge Rare Stamps of the World" invitational in London. He considers his greatest philatelic achievement as being the recipient of the American Philatelic Societies Champion of Champion's Award in 2000 for his exhibit of classic Mexico.

Dr. Mazepa is an accredited National Judge and Chief Judge, and accredited FIP International Judge. He is one of only two accredited judges for Polish philately by the APS.

For more than ten years, Dr. Mazepa served as the Secretary of Polonus and was on the publications committee. He was the creator and editor of the first two Polonus Handbooks, Gryzewski's **First Polish Korp In Russia** and Mikstein's **Polish Postmarks of the 18th Century**. He enjoys philatelic research and has published over 50 articles in various Journals. He has held many other positions in organized philately. He served on the Board of Directors of the Collector's Club of Chicago for sixteen years as well as on their Publications Committee and chairman of the Speakers Committee. He continues to serve on the Board of MEPSI (Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society International) of which he was Chairman of the Board for eleven years. He continues in his position of Vice President of FIAF (Federacion InterAmericana de Filatelia), the organization that coordinates and encourages the working together of the philatelic federations of North, Central, and South America.

MICKIEWICZ

By: Stanley T. Wlodek

If you know something of Polish history, very inexpensive stamps on cover can be associated with material of great interest. The small folded cover, illustrated in Figure 1 and franked with the very common German stamps, Scott 67 is an example. Postmarked in Gniezno (Gnesen) on July 5 1909 and addressed in Polish to the "Wielmożny Panstwo (a respectful form of salutation that really cannot be translated into English) Makowscy", at the address of Mr. F. Jonas in Drochowo, near Niechanowo in Gnesen (Gniezno) county, the little folded cover has nothing immediate to indicate that it is of any great interest. That is until one realizes that this part of Poland has been under Prussian and later German domination since the second partition of Poland in 1793 and that the Germans had ruthlessly tried to eradicate the Polish language and heritage. Indeed, by 1908 letters addressed in Polish were not even accepted by the German Postal System. So here, despite all Prussian and later German efforts we have a letter addressed in Polish to a tiny village in the county of Gniezno that was delivered by the German postal system. This is a striking historical proof that despite their effort of 116 years the Prussians and Germans did not succeed in eradicating the Polish soul in people that for three generations had lived under their subjugation. So I bought this cover.

The real surprise came on opening the small folded cover to reveal the multi colored display shown in Figure 2 on page 12. Under the banner "For Charitable and National Purposes" we have the portrait of Poland's greatest poet Adam Mickiewicz flanked by the Polish eagle on the left and the Lithuanian crest portraying the White Knight Vityas on the right. Below are reproduced the four monuments to Mickiewicz in Poznan (Prussian Partition), Lwow and Krakow (Austrian Partition) and Warsaw (Russian Partition). Each of these monuments was funded solely by donations from Poles to whom the works of Mickiewicz were a shining light during these dark days. Below the pictorial rendition of the four monuments is the slogan on a blue background "He Loved the Whole Nation".

POLISH POSTAL HISTORY

At the bottom of this patriotic missive is the hand written notation, once again in Polish "My Dears, on a day so important to you, I send you my Blessing that Our Lord would never abandon you in your new life and that your marriage may be an example to others". This was essentially a card of wedding congratulations written on a patriotic form that was sold to raise funds for Polish charitable and patriotic causes. The back of the letter was also sealed with a small seal that was also sold for similar purposes.

Adam Mickiewicz (1798-1855) will always be treasured by all Poles, not only because of his epic poetry but because he always fought for the cause of a free Poland during the dark partition period. You can learn much more about this great Polish hero by going to the English language websites:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam_Mickiewicz

<http://kirjasto.sci.fi/mickie.htm>

In addition there is an excellent Polish language site where you can download all of his great works of poetry:

<http://www.mickiewicz.art.pl/>

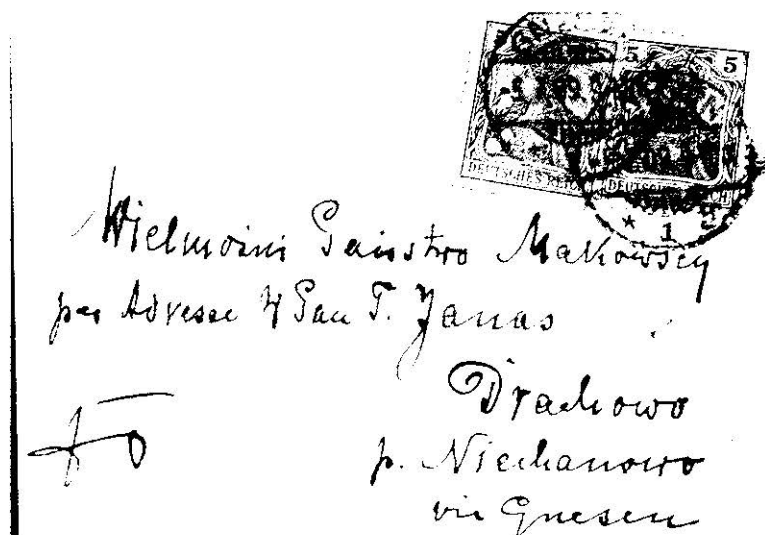


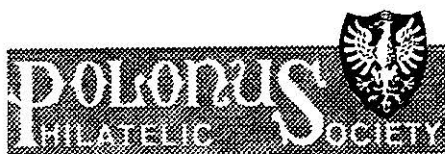
Figure 1. A Simple Folded Cover addressed to Drachowo and postmarked Gnesen (Gniezno) July 5 1909.

WANTED POLISH TRANSLATORS

Polonus needs members who have the ability to translate articles published in Polish philatelic journals for reprinting in the Bulletin. Providing translations of these articles to our members is one of the primary missions of our Society. To accomplish that mission we need more members to translate articles.

Polonus will offer you a wide variety of articles for translation in either hardcopy or electronic format. You pick the articles you wish to translate. Translate one article every 3 months. This is your opportunity to use your skill to contribute to your Society.

For more information email Hank Bieniecki at biistamp@charter.net or call me at (618) 659-1325.



The Polonus Philatelic Society is a Not-for-Profit Organization which was incorporated in 1939 in the State of Illinois. Its objective is to promote Polish philately via the dissemination of Polish philatelic information in English. The opinions expressed by authors of articles appearing in the Polonus Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

Members receive the Polonus Philatelic Bulletin quarterly, have full access to www.polonus.org and participate in the events and activities of the society. Annual dues are payable in US funds before the end of March of each calendar year. Membership categories are as follows:

Regular Member: \$25.00 payable in US funds

Retired Member: (retirees with restricted incomes) \$15.00

Junior Members: (under age 16) \$10.00

Charge Card Payments: Members that pay their annual dues using a charge card will be assessed an additional \$4 banking fee.

New members will receive all the "Bulletins" for the year in which they join. All memberships are based on the calendar year.

(1) Dues, (2) Article for publication, (3) Changes of address, (4) Inquiries regarding and Applications for memberships, (5) General matters or complaints pertaining to the Society should all be sent to:

Polonus Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 2, Maryville, IL 62062