

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets 2d & 4th Friday of each month at Polish Falcon Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Av.

Issue No. 98

September 1951

Something More About

The Warsaw Ghetto Delivery Post

by Dr. Henry Fenigstein

No sooner was the Warsaw Ghetto closed in Nov. 1940, by high walls and German guards watching at the gates, than the entrance of the letter carriers of the German Post for the General Gouvernement (so-called Deutsche Post Osten) to the Ghetto was completely forbidden. As the Jewish population was entirely cut off from the outside world there was a burning necessity to create their own postal service in order to maintain contact among the inhabitants of the Ghetto and the rest of the world. This problem was solved by the Jewish Community in Warsaw, headed then by dipl. eng. A. Czerniakow, in the winter of 1940/41. They designated a postal station for the Jewish District under the supervision of the alderman of the Jewish Community dipl. eng. Zabłudowski. Its director was N. Jaszunski.

The task of the Jewish Postal Station (S. P. D. Z. for Składnia Pocztowa Dzielnicy Żydowskiej) was to exchange the mail between the main Warsaw Post Office and the inhabitants of the Ghetto. This Postal Station was established at the Krochmalna Street where the mail was sorted and delivered to the Jewish letter carriers.

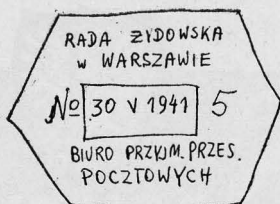
The Ghetto with its 600,000 inhabitants was situated in the northern part of Warsaw and consisted of two parts. The western smaller part (so-called "little Ghetto") was connected

with the eastern larger part by both a wooden bridge over Chłodna Street for the use of pedestrians and a road of Żelazna Street for traffic. There were, therefore, two offices established for the population, that is at Ciepla Street for the western part, and at 19 Żamenhof Street for the eastern part.

After the exile and bloody murder of about 500,000 people from the Ghetto (from July 21, 1942, till mid-September 1942) there remained only one Postal Office, at 19 Żamenhof Street for the diminished Ghetto (part of the "large" one). Here, since the end of September 1942, the exchange and sorting of the arriving mail also took place.

Together with the final liquidation of the Warsaw Ghetto, which started April 19, 1943, and which this time met with strong resistance of the Jews (see postage stamp of Poland issued to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Ghetto uprising—Scott No. 418), the last Jewish Postal Station in the General Gouvernement, which had served so gallantly the Ghetto inhabitants for two and a half years, was abolished.

Unlike local delivery post offices during the German occupation of Poland of 1915-1918 in Warsaw, Sosnowiec, Zawiercie, and during the Austrian occupation in 1917-1918 in Przemyśl and Żarki, the Postal Station of the Warsaw Ghetto did not have



its own stamps. (The German authorities did not allow this issuance). In order to control the fees for the delivery of mail to inhabitants of the Ghetto special handstamps were introduced similar to that of Warsaw at the end of October 1916 and of Czechochowa in 1916. As the fees for the delivery of mail depended on the class of correspondence. (See: Bulletin of the Polonus Philatelic Society No. 78, Oct. 1949—Delivery Post in the Warsaw Ghetto by W. Rachmanow.) There were introduced five kinds of handstamps: 1. delivery free of charge, 2. delivery 10 groszy, 3. 20 groszy, 4. 30 groszy and 5. 50 groszy. They were used together with a rectangular handstamp containing the date in the center and the letters R. Z. w W. (for Jewish Council in Warsaw) above and S. P. D. Z. (for Postal Station of the Jewish District) below the date. The above mentioned handstamps were put on mail in the sorting station. The mail was then delivered, together with the bill-forms to the Jewish carriers who had to collect the fee from the addressee.

Besides the above handstamps there was another one never before mentioned: a hexagonal one with the date in a square frame in the center, above this it had the inscription Rada Żydowska w Warszawie (Jewish Council in Warsaw) in two lines and under the date Biuro Przyjm. Przes. Pocztywych (Office for the reception of mail). The German authorities forbade the use of this handstamp as well as of the other ones for cancellation of the stamps of Gen. Gouv. In spite of this prohibition I succeeded in obtaining a copy of this handstamp with No. 5 on the sides of the frame with the date on a stamp of the Gen. Gouv. I think that there should exist similar handstamps with other numbers and would appreciate any information.

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT INCOME

Dues	389.50
Subscr. and Ads in Bulletin	15.50
Polpex	91.26
Seals, etc.	27.60
Donation Auction	20.65
Easel Rental	66.00

\$ 610.51

EXPENSE

Printing of Bulletin	374.00
Stationery printing	36.61
Postage, incl. Bulletin	70.28
Cuts for Bulletin	42.30
Rent	44.00
Construction of easels	82.86
Misc. Expenses	39.29

\$ 689.84

Above Income	610.51
Bal. last audit 2/8/50	426.78

\$1037.29

Less expenses	689.84
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Balance \$ 347.45

We, the undersigned, have audited the books of the Polonus Philatelic Society from Feb. 8, 1950 to Feb. 28, 1951 as authorized by the President and found them in order with a cash balance of \$347.45.

Certified and audited,
Ben Reeves Stanley Kucharz

NEW MEMBERS

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STAMP EXHIBITION

The Central Council of Polish Organizations of Pittsburgh, Pa., is sponsoring an All-Polish Stamp Exhibition to be held on November 17th and 18th, at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa. It is opened to Polonus members. For entry blanks and further information write to Joseph A. Borkowski, 1415 Swissvale Ave., Pittsburgh 21, Pa.

POLAND

The Postal Issues During and After the Great War

by the late COL. R. N. W. LARKING, C.B.E., F.R.P.S.I.

40. MOSTY WIELKIE.
"PORTO," 27x5½ mm., rubber-stamped in black. (Fig. 46.)
41. MYSLENICE.
"PORTO," in graduated lettering, in a diamond-shaped frame, wood-stamped in black. (Fig. 47.)
42. NISKO.
(i) "PTO.," in block letters, 26x12 mm., rubber-stamped in black.
(ii) "PTO." in block letters, 30x13 mm., rubber-stamped in black or violet.
(iii) "P.T.O." in block letters, 26x12-13 mm., rubber-stamped in black. (Fig. 48.)
43. NOWY SACZ.
"Porto," 14x3½ mm. ("P" and "t," 4½ mm.), rubber-stamped in violet.
44. OZAROW RADOMSKI.
"Doplata, M . . . F . . . , Ozarow," in three lines, in a frame 37x28 mm., rubber-stamped in black.
45. PODKAMIEŃ KOŁO BRODOW.
"PORTO," sans serif, 25x5-5½ mm rubber-stamped in black. (Fig. 49.)
46. PODWOŁOCZYSKA.
"T," 18½ mm. high by 12½ mm. broad, wood-stamped in black.
47. PRZEMYŚL.
"PORTO," sans serif, 11x3 mm., in a frame 14½x5½ mm., metal-stamped in black. (Fig. 50.)
48. PRZEWORSK.
"OPLACIC," 54x12½ mm., wood-stamped in black.
49. RADŁÓW.
"PORTO," sans serif, 16½x3½ mm., rubber-stamped in violet.
50. RADYMNO.
(i) "Porto," 15x2½-3½ mm., rubber-stamped in black. The second "O" is slightly dropped. (Fig. 51.)
(ii) "Porto," 9½x2 mm. ("P" and "t," 3 mm.), metal-stamped in black.
51. RADZIECHÓW.
"DOPLATA," 24½x3½ mm., metal stamped in black.
52. ROSWADÓW.
"PORTO," sans serif, in a dotted triangular frame 20x17 mm., and the date "1919" below, rubber-stamped in violet or carmine. There are two types of the word "PORTO":
(a) Broad letters. (Fig. 52.)
(b) Narrow letters.
53. RUDNIK nad SANEM.
"PORTO," sans serif, 17x4 mm., rubber-stamped in violet or carmine. (Fig. 53.)
54. RZESZÓW.
(i) "PORTO," sans serif, 17x4 mm., rubber-stamped in violet or carmine. (Fig. 54.)
(ii) "Doplata, Rzeszow," or "doplata, Rzeszow," in two lines, metal-stamped in black.
55. SĄBÓR.
(i) "POKTO," 19½x4½ mm., rubber-stamped in black. The "R" of "PORTO" resembles a "K."
(ii) "WYDAC," 36x9 mm., metal-stamped in black.
56. SĄNÓK.
"PORTO," in tall fancy block type, 31½x12 mm., wood-stamped in black. (Fig. 55.)
57. SKALAT.
(i) Eagle with Crown, 19½ mm. high by 15 mm. wide, rubber-stamped in carmine.
(ii) "Doplata," 28x4-6 mm. (length includes the stop), rubber-stamped in carmine or green.
58. SKAWINA.
"PORTO," in large block letters, 32x9 mm., rubber-stamped in black. (Fig. 56.)
59. SKRZECZÓW.
(i) "PORTO," sans serif upright letters, descending from the top left

Reprinted from GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY — Oct. 1929 to Aug. 1932
by POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY — Chicago, Ill. — U. S. A.

- corner of the stamp to the lower right corner, rubber-stamped in black or violet. (Fig. 57.)
- (ii) "PORTO," sans serif, 12½x4 mm., reading down, rubber-stamped in black. (Fig. 58.)
60. STANISLAWOW.
"PORTO," 22x5 mm., rubber-stamped in mauve. The overprint is identical to that of the first issue for Lwów (No. 36). The ink, however, is different.
61. STRYJ.
(i) "Porto," 24½x3 mm. ("P" and "t," 3½ mm.), letters are spaced and read across the stamp, wood-stamped in black.
(ii) "PORTO," 65x13½ mm., wood-stamped in black. (Fig. 59.)
62. SWIATNIKI GORNE.
(i) "PORTO," sans serif, 18x3½ mm., metal stamped in black or carmine.
(ii) "PORTO," sans serif, 14x2 mm., in a frame 16x6 mm., metal-stamped in black or violet. (Fig. 60.)
(iii) "PORTO, 50 h.," in two lines, wood-stamped in black or violet on the 70 hal. P.K.L. issue.
63. TRUSKAWIEC.
"PORTO," 17x6 mm., rubber-stamped in black or carmine.
64. TUSTANOWICE (Wolanka).
(i) "PORTO," 24x6 mm., wood-stamped in black.
(ii) "porto," 18x4-6 mm., rubber-stamped in black.
(iii) "DOPLATA, a horizontal line, TUSTANOWICE," in a frame 39x15 mm., rubber-stamped in black. (Fig. 61.)
65. TRZEBINIA 2.
(i) "Porto," 11x3 mm. ("P" and "t," 4½ mm.), rubber-stamped in black, violet, or red. (Fig. 62.)
(ii) "PORTO, TRZEBINIA 2," in fancy type and in two lines, in a frame 34x21 mm., double-lined right side and bottom, and broken on the left side, wood-stamped in black.
66. TRZYNIEC.
"PORTO," sans serif, 20½x4½-5 mm., rubber-stamped in black. The "R" and "T" are larger than the other letters. (Fig. 63.)
67. ULANOW.
(i) "PORTO," 26x7 mm., in a frame 35x15 mm., wood-stamped in black.
(ii) "T," 18 mm. high by 4 mm. broad, with a line 16 mm. long below, wood-stamped in black or violet.
68. WADOWICE.
"Porto," 19x3 mm. ("P" and "t," 4½ mm.), between two parallel lines 22 mm. in length, rubber-stamped in blue-black.
69. WOLA ZARCZYCKA.
"Portowa," 23x2½-4 mm., rubber-stamped in violet.
70. ZAMARSTYNOW.
"Porto," 22x5½ mm. ("P" and "t," 8 mm.), metal-stamped in black. (Fig. 64)
71. ZOLYNIA.
"PORTO," sans serif, 17½x5 mm., rubber-stamped in blue. (Fig. 65.)
72. ZOLKIEW.
"PORTO," sans serif, 18½x4½ mm., rubber-stamped in violet.
73. ZOLTANCE.
"PORTO," 36x8 mm., across two stamps, wood-stamped in black.
74. ZYDACZOW.
(i) "T," 20 mm. high by 15 mm. broad, wood-stamped in black. (Fig. 66.)
(ii) "Porto," with star above and below, in a three-line frame similar to Kraków 1, except that "Porto" is sans serif, and the centre line of the frame is not wavy, rubber-stamped in black or violet. (Fig. 67.)
(iii) "Porto," 14x3 mm. ("P" and "t," 3½-4½ mm.), rubber-stamped in black or violet.

This completes the Local issues of Postage Dues.

XVIII. POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. DEFINITIVE ISSUES

By order of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, Warsaw, the first definitive issue of these stamps appeared in October 1919.

There were two series, one for Northern Poland, printed in red, the values representing fennigow, and the other for Southern Poland, printed in blue, the values being in halerzy.



Each series was identical in size and design. The stamps measure 18 mm. square, and show a white numeral in the centre, on a lined back-

ground and surrounded by an ornamental wreath, with "POCZTA POLSKA" above and "DOPLATA" below.

There are nine values in each series, namely 2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 100 and 500 fennigow or halerzy.

Many shades may be found in both series. That for Northern Poland appears in brick-red, dark red, orange-red, etc., and for Southern Poland in blue, dark blue, grey-blue and indigo.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 100, on thick wove paper; but some values may be found on a thinner paper. The normal perforation is $11\frac{1}{2}$, clean-cut and rough and compound of the same. Both series are known perforated 11; these stamps may be recognized at a glance, as the design is clearer, and the shade is orange-vermilion for Northern Poland, and steel-blue for Southern Poland.

The few constant plate varieties are:

4 fen. or hal.—A small white dot under the right foot of the "A" of "POLSKA," No. 83 on the sheet.

30 fen. or hal.—The left vertical row of the sheet (10 stamps) shows the "O" of "DOPLATA" broken on the right, like the letter "C."

50 fen. or hal.—Dot between "LS" of "POLSKA." Nos. 2 and 94.

Dot under "C" of "POCZTA," No. 8

Dot in "S" of "POLSKA," No. 9.

Scratch in "A" of "POCZTA," No. 24.

Dot over "S" of "POLSKA," No. 35.

Dot over "O" of "POCZTA," No. 46.

Scratch between "OL" of "POLSKA," No. 55.

Dot after "A" of "POCZTA," No. 92.

I have not seen any plate varieties on either series perforated 11.

Othr varieties such as double perforations and offsets are known, and both series may be found imperforate.

It is said that owing to a shortage of postage stamps in the town of Ostrowiec, some of the Dues for Southern Poland were used as such, by surcharging them "25 hal.," and obliterating the word "DOPLATA." This procedure did not receive official sanction.

In May 1920, a further issue appeared on thin vertically and horizontally laid paper. The stamps were printed in blue, dark blue and blue-black, but were in mark currency, for use in both North and South Poland. The values were 20, 100, 200 and 500 fen. The previous series for Southern

Poland were used concurrently with this issue as mark currency for the whole of Poland.

Owing to a temporary shortage of gum, most sheets of the 100, 200 and 500 fen. were issued without gum. The shades of the stamps with gum are of a much brighter blue than those without, which are usually of a deep grey-blue to blue-black.

I have found the following perforations on these stamps:

20 f. vert. laid— $11\frac{1}{2}$; hor. laid— $11\frac{1}{2}$.

100 f. vert. laid—9, 10 and $11\frac{1}{2}$; hor. laid—9, 10 and $11\frac{1}{2}$.

200 f. vert. laid—9 and $11\frac{1}{2}$; hor. laid—9, 10 and $11\frac{1}{2}$.

500 f. vert. laid—9, 10, $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times$ 10; hor. laid—9, 10 and 11.

I believe perf. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ is to be found, but I have not yet seen a copy.

There are numerous plate varieties in this issue; practically every other stamp on the sheet shows a dot or scratch somewhere in the lettering. As these are not constant, I am not describing them.

In some towns, where there was a temporary shortage of postage stamps, the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs sanctioned the use of these Postage Due stamps in their place.

In February 1921, a provisional issue appeared. Five values of the Polish Liquidation Committee issue of 1919 were overprinted "doplata" at the foot of the stamp, and surcharged in black as follows:

6 Mk.

doplata

Nos. surcharged

6 mks. on 15 hal. brown	270,000
6 mks. on 25 hal. carmine	160,000
20 mks. on 10 hal. lake	42,000
20 mks. on 50 hal. indigo	60,000
35 mks. on 70 hal. blue	26,000

The 6 and 20 mks. denominations were used on parcels arriving from America, and paid the charges for delivery from port of arrival to destination. As regards the 35 mks., there appears to be a doubt as to whether this stamp was actually put into circulation.

There are several surcharge and overprint varieties, as follows:

- (a) Varieties common to all five values:
 Left vertical stroke of "M" broken, No. 19.
 Thin top to first "a" of "doplata," No. 23.
 Broken stop, like a half-moon, No. 54.
 Top of left vertical stroke of "M" broken, No. 57.
 No stop after "Mk." No. 66.
 Sans-serif "k," No. 70.
 Second "a" of "doplata" very faint, No. 81.
 Stop after "Mk." almost invisible, No. 95.
- (b) Additional varieties common to the 6 mks./15 hal. and 20 hal. only.
 Large stop after "Mk." No. 17.
 Broken stop to "6," No. 75.
- (c) Additional varieties common to the 20 mks./10 hal. and 50 hal. only.
 Flat top to the "2," No. 8.
 Left side of "O" of "20" broken, No. 28.
 Top of the "2" broken, No. 72.
 No stop after "Mk." No. 73.
 Ball of the "2" broken, No. 98.
- There would appear to have been a second printing of these provisionals, as I have, in addition to the above, the following varieties:
 On the 6 mks./15 hal. and 20 hal., the second "a" in "doplata" is normal on No. 81, and the lower half of the oblique stroke through the "l" of "doplata" is missing, No. 92.
 On the 20 mks./10 hal. and 50 hal., the "2" has no ball, similar to an antique "2," No. 40, and on another stamp there is a distinct break in the "2" between the base and the upper curve.
 On the 35 mks./70 hal., the right top corner of the "M" is broken, No. 66, and the right diagonal stroke of the "M" is missing, No. 86.
- The surcharge and overprint on the 6 mks./15 hal. is also found in a grey-black ink, and some sheets of all the values show the surcharge and overprint clearly on the back of the stamp.
- In April 1921, an entirely new series of Postage Dues was issued for use in all Poland.
- The stamps were designed by Mr. Edward Trojanowski and show the Polish Eagle in a rectangular frame supporting a shield containing the values in white numerals and "MK" beneath. Below the shield are two in-



terlaced posthorns. In the top label "POCZTA POLSKA," and in the bottom label "DOPLATA." The initials "E" and "T" are seen over the "D" and "A" of "DOPLATA."

The first issue consisted of seven denominations, namely 2, 4, 6, 8, 20, 50 and 100 mks. This issue was printed on vertically and horizontally laid paper, in dark blue of varying shades.

A second issue, early in 1922, added a 1 mk. value to the series, and this, together with a re-issue of the 8 mks. value, was printed on pelure paper, the colouring being blue to deep blue.

A third issue appeared later in the same year of the following values: 1, 2, 4, 8, 20, 50 and 100 mks. This was printed on a thick smooth wove paper, the colouring being grey-blue to black-blue.

Many varieties of perforation are found in all three issues. These will be set out in a table further on.

Between March and June 1923, a series of six high values were issued, namely 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000 and 2000 mks. These stamps are similar in design to the preceding issues, only larger (19x24 mm.).

They were printed by rotary machine on very thin, almost pelure, paper, and perforated 12½ only. The colouring is dark blue of varying shades.

The depreciation of the value of the mark at this period necessitated still higher values; consequently, whilst these were being prepared, a provisional issue of high values appeared in October 1923, namely:

10,000 (marks) surcharged diagonally on the 8 mks., vertically and horizontally laid, pelure and thick wove papers.

20,000 (marks) surcharged vertically on the 20 mks., vertically and horizontally laid, and thick wove papers.

50,000 (marks) surcharged vertically on the 2 mks., vertically and horizontally laid, and thick wove papers.

Perforation varieties to be found on these stamps will appear in a table further on.

TID BITS

Vic Bukinik, one of the original Polonus members, and Bill Stewart formerly of Irwin Heiman's of N. Y. have teamed up to operate mail auction sales under the firm name of Start Stamps of 535 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, N. J. Vic will be glad to put any Polonus member on his mailing list.

Did you know that there's a Chet Sawicki in Cleveland, Ohio, who is the foremost Polish Coin Collector in this country and that he has won many major awards at National coin competitions with his Polish coins?

Our far away member Derek Palmer was elected president of the largest Philatelic Society of Chile.

Mr. Palmer exhibited his cover collection of the war between Chile, Peru and Bolivia at the International Exhibit in Buenos Aires and was awarded a silver gilt and a silver medal.

Myron Steczynski was elected president of the Polish Arts Club in Chicago.

We were glad to see member Ben Reeves and E. Vining make S. P. A. Directorships at the recent Cincinnati Convention.

Among Polonus members who exhibited at the S. P. A. Cincinnati Show, Steve Rich, Dr. Herbert Pollack and Barney Fialkowski walked off with major awards.

AUCTION BIDS ON POLISH MATERIAL

Polish lots realized the following prices at a recent Auction Sale of Mercury Stamp Co., New York:

Poland, No. 1, 1860, tied to cover, Dworzec Praga to Bialystok, 1862, "DP" cancel, \$23; No. 1b, dark blue and rose, tied to cover, Kalisz to Warsaw 1861, "191" cancel, \$26.50; No. 1b tied to cover, Plecka Dabrowa to Warsaw, January 1860, "218" cancel, \$36; No. 1, variety with additional blue oval around center, tied to cover, Myszkow to Warsaw. "168" cancel, \$41.



New Issues—

Famous Poles who made distinguished contributions to science are pictured on this series of six stamps reported to have been issued May 24th for the First Polish Congress of Science. The 25 gr. red shows St. Staszic; the 40 gr. blue—Maria Curie-Skłodowska; the 45 gr. purple—Z. Wroblewski and K. Olszewski; the 60 gr. green—Prof. M. Nencki; the 1.15 zł. violet—Mikolaj Kopernik; the 1.20 zł. gray—allegory of scientific progress.

S.P.A. PUBLISHES U.P.U. VOLUME

A book describing and illustrating all the Universal Postal Union issues of the various countries on its 75th Anniversary, has been published by the Society of Philatelic Americans. The author, Marian Carne Zinsmeister, is known to Polonus for the fine article on Polish Souvenir Sheets which she wrote and which appeared in our BULLETIN. Price of the book is 75¢ and may be obtained for this amount plus postage from our Secretary—Barney Fialkowski, 2633 N. Emmett St., Chicago 47, Ill.

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New Issues—

The 45 gr. red of the "7th Year of the Peoples Poland" Commemorative set is shown; Pres. Bierut against a background depicting agriculture and industry. Additional values of set include a 60 gr. green and a 90 gr. blue.

The second stamp shown is a 45 gr. brown commemorative of the 25th anniversary of the death of Felix Dzierzynski, Russian Soviet politician and administrator of Polish descent who was at one time head of Russian secret police, commissar of transport, the head of supreme economic council.

The next two stamps are a 30 gr. olive and a 45 gr. blue Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts commemoratives.

The last large stamp is a 40 gr. blue issued for the Third World Festival of Youth For Peace Movement held at Berlin Aug. 5 to 19. Shown are youths of different nations in costumes forming a ring around a globe of the earth with the dove of peace flying above them.

A new issue is reported to have appeared on Sept. 8th, to commemorate the "Spartakiad" Sports Contest. It shows a runner, the national flag, and a cog wheel.

—J. D.