

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every 2nd & 4th Friday at Polish Veterans Home, 6005 W. Irving Pk., Chgo.

Issue No. 341

Price 50c

March, 1976

IT'S HERE! POLPEX 76 - MARCH 19, 20 & 21!

POLPEX 76, the 36th annual Polonus exhibition will be held March 19-21 at the LaSalle Hotel in downtown Chicago. It promises to be the largest and most extensive exhibition in the history of the Society.

The Court of Honor will show a collection of letters of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko from the American Revolutionary War Period. There will be 300 frames in the competitive class with specialized showings not only of Polish material, but Americana as well as foreign. Exhibitors for the show this year come from the U.S., Canada, England and Poland.

There will be a 40 dealer bourse and U.S. and U.N. Postal stations using special Polpex cancellations.

The Illinois Bicentennial Commission endorses POLPEX 76 as part of the Illinois celebrations of 1976 as also has the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration recognized our Polpex and accepted Polonus as a member in the National Bicentennial Ethnic Racial Alliance.

Dr. Miet Kamienski of Canada will present a talk and slide show on Polish postal history on Saturday afternoon at the Polpex.

Three different cacheted covers, one for each day of the show are being offered. Special Polish Polpex covers, bearing Poland's U.S. Bicentennial stamps, prepared by "Polski Związek Filatelistów" in Warsaw will also be offered.



Polonus Bicentennial Medallion

A most unique item, a Bicentennial medallion in gilded form, serially numbered, and with your name engraved, is available for \$50.00 patrons. Be a financial sponsor and help Polonus financially in this, its biggest undertaking. Your \$2.00 donation for a Polpex Well Wisher will also be welcomed and appreciated. A convenient remittance envelope is enclosed for this purpose.

Award presentations will take place on Saturday, March 20th,

at 8 p.m. in the Century Room of the La Salle Hotel. The banquet program will feature Aloysius A. Mazewski, President of the Polish National Alliance, as the main speaker; Prof. W. Wagner of Detroit University as guest speaker; Hon. Lester Jankowski, award presentations; Romuald Matuszczak as master of ceremonies. Live music and entertainment will spark the reception. Tickets at \$9.50 per person are available from Roman H. Strzelecki, 1620 N. Latrobe Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60639, phone (312) 237-7366 after 6:00 p.m.

Official Polpex opening ceremonies will take place Friday, March 19th at 12 noon with prominent personalities participating.

We will need help to set-up the exhibits Thursday evening, from 6:30 p.m. on at the La Salle Hotel. Help is also needed at tables and hospitality room on all three days. Donations of liquor for our hospitality room are also welcome. Those willing to help are asked to contact Edw. Link, phone (312) 774-6579 after 6:00 p.m.

See you at POLPEX 76! You can't afford to miss this one!

POLPEX PROGRAM CATALOG

As is customary with every Polonus exhibition a program catalog will be printed for POLPEX 76. It will contain the catalog of the exhibits, listings of the committees, officers, advertisements, patrons, well wishers, and philatelic and historical articles. Excellent articles have been submitted by Myron E. Steczynski on the U.S. Commemoratives honoring Kosciuszko and Pulaski as well as the Poland 1932 30 gr. brown commemorative with Kosciuszko, Washington and Pulaski.

STAMP MARKET TIPS

by John G. Ross

For many years after World War II stamps of Poland were not too popular with the collector in Western Europe, and practically any stamp offered was sold to the U.S.A. All this has changed, stamps of Poland are being collected in the Western part of Germany especially, and I notice more and more buyads appearing in German philatelic magazines for better Polish stamps. Some of the buy prices offered are much higher than the selling prices here, and my advice is to look over your collection of Poland and try to complete some or all the vacant spaces you might have. On top of your buylist at this moment place the single stamp of one zloty plus five which was issued in June, 1945 to commemorate the **Postal Workers Convention** held in Poznań, Scott No. B40. Only 60,000 copies were printed, and most of them were sold to this country. Scott 1976 did not change its price; it still lists at \$6.00, but buyprices in Europe have reached exactly that high price of \$6.00 by dealers who are willing to purchase large quantities. You might still be able to locate that stamp fairly easily at your dealer, but hurry, many are being bought up by dealers who are selling this stamp to Europe. Chances are in no time at all most of the available stock will be bought up.

Reprinted from STAMPS of 2/28/76

NEW MEMBERS

Edith Ann Maslon
320 E. Montana St.
Milwaukee, Wis. 53207
Frank A. Sohota
8234 Greenview
Detroit, Mich. 48228

Father Bojnowski, Champion of the Polish Cause

By J. NIEBRZYDOWSKI

Editor's Note:

Father Bojnowski corresponded with many in Gen. Haller's Army. Consequently, a lot of covers sent to him are preserved today as evidence of the existence of this army.

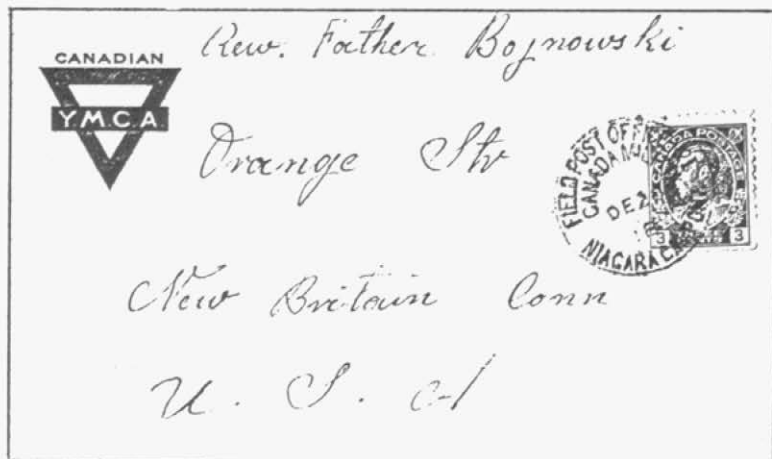
It is somewhat difficult to enumerate in this brief biographical outline the works, labor organizing spirit of the much respected, and esteemed priest, whom Dr. Daniel S. Buczek, in his book entitled "Immigrant Priest" called him "A Leader Among Giants", which the priest was.

As a newly ordained, young Roman Catholic priest, he was assigned to the Polish colony in New Britain in 1895. In a short time he organized the Polish parish of Sacred Heart and built a church, which was completed in 1896 together with the school in the same building in which were enrolled 40 children and then grew in six years to 150 pupils.



He also founded a parochial library with about 3,000 books, part of which were brought from Europe.

With increasing numbers and steady incoming Polish Immigrants, there was need for a larger church, construction of



A special cancellation was used on mail at the Niagara Camp at Ontario, Canada where soldiers for Gen. Haller's received training in 1918.



A fieldpost cover from soldier Stefan Piotrowski "Poczta Polowa 310" in Gen. Haller's Army in France.

which was started in 1902 and completed in 1904. Feeling a need for an orphanage, he established one and by 1906 a three story home was built. He then founded the Nun's Order under the name of "Daughters of the Immaculate Conception", which took over the care of the orphan children.

In 1907 there appeared the first edition of a Catholic Weekly, *Przewodnik Katolicki* (Catholic Leader), which became very influential in the vicinity around New England. After his death the paper has discontinued its publication in 1966.

With the beginning of World War I, the energetic priest really showed his talent of organizing. Father Bojnowski was called "Spiritus Movens" of this whole campaign, which he took up for regaining the Independence for

Poland. His wonderful appeal and work resulted in 290 volunteers to the Polish Army which began to organize in the U.S. In addition, he was very instrumental in persuading 675 volunteers to join the U.S. Army, of which 123 died on the battlefield in action. It is worthy to note, that there were only 3500 Polish Immigrants in the area of recruiting.

The Polish Citizens Committee organized in his parish collected the sum of \$870,000 for the Polish cause, which was a considerable amount of money for that period of time.

Through his efforts, and a "tag day" in 1920, a Fund for Polish Invalids was established and an organization of a Veteran Unit was formed in which were grouped the returning veterans from the European and



Another cover of soldier's mail from Gen. Haller's Army in France. The army consisted not only of Poles from France, but also from Italy, U.S., Canada, Brazil and Argentina. In 1918 about 21,000 soldiers from U.S. and Canada arrived in France.

Polish battlefronts. And today the Haller Veterans Post No. 111 is one of the largest of its kind in the United States. His wonderful achievements were not limited to New Britain only. In New York he established a Home For Girls and Women. In 1925 he founded St. Lucian's Home for the Aged.

In 1946 he became a Monsignor. He died in 1960, after 65 years of continuous, hard, and meritorious labor for the Polish cause, his local Community, the American nation, and the Catholic Church.

He was a lifelong friend of Paderewski, Gen. Jozef Haller, and many well known leaders in the Polish nation and U.S., both Polish and American.

He was the undisputed authority of his flock, esteemed, re-

vered, and was a Saint to many, and a menace to others.

Source: "Immigrant Pastor"
by Dr. Daniel Buczek
"Polonia in Connecticut"
by M. Kierklo and J. Wojcik

P.A.N.A. AT POLPEX 76

The Polish American Numismatic Association will participate at POLPEX 76. Their members will show exhibits of coins, paper money, medallions and military medals in the Numismatic section of the show.

P.A.N.A. will issue a commemorative medallion for the U.S. Bicentennial. It is being minted in Italy and a shipment of the medallions is expected to arrive in Chicago in time for Polpex.

**"POLPEX 76" WILL BE A ONCE
IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE**

POLPEX 76 PATRONS

\$50.00 DONORS

DANIEL DOHM, JR.

DAVID R. JACKSON, M.D.

ADELA LAGODZINSKA

WALTER MIECZYNSKI

EDWARD C. PULASKI

JOHN G. ROSS

JOSEPH R. N. USZKOWSKI

MRS. MATTHEW E. UZNANSKI

WALTER ZACHARIASIEWICZ

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 18, 1976 —

Polpex Mounting Party at La Salle Hote Grand Ballroom, 19th floor, starting at 6:30 p.m. Bring along pliers, screw driver, razor blade, window cleaner and cloth. Many out of town exhibits have to be mounted.

Friday, March 19, 1976 —

10 am—Exhibit & bourse opens
12 pm—Opening Ceremony
12 pm—US & UN postal station opens
10 pm—Exhibit & Bourse closes

Saturday, March 20, 1976 —

10 am—Exhibit & bourse opens
10:30 am—ATA Space Unit meets
12 pm—US & UN postal station opens
3 pm—Ill. Federation Meeting
pm—Slide presentation & lecture by Dr. M. Kamienski on "Poland 1860-1923"
8 pm—Banquet in the Century Room
10 pm—Exhibit & Bourse closes

Friday, March 21, 1976 —

10 am—Exhibit & bourse opens
11 am—US & UN postal station opens
2 pm—Hellenic P.S. Meeting
6 pm—Exhibit closes. Your help

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

William Jusack, Secretary
12335 S. Parnell, Chicago, Ill. 60628
Al Rybarski, Treasurer
P.O. Box 82, River Grove, Ill. 60171
Chester A. Schafer, Editor
864 N. Ashland, Chicago, Ill. 60622
T. J. Gobby, Publications Chrm.
5713 Warwick, Chicago, Ill. 60634

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

— Annual Dues are \$5.00 —

is needed here to take down the exhibition. Please do your part.

Friday, March 26, 1976 —

Program meeting at Veterans Home — 8 pm. Speaker: Polpex Grand Award winner. Beeba to follow.

POLPEX ACCOMODATIONS

Space arrangements have been made for persons desiring overnight accomodations at the La Salle Hotel during POLPEX 76 March 19-20-21. For information contact Mrs. Wanda Szebel, Matuszczak Travel Inc., 5736 West Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL 60634, Phone (312) 283-4511.