



POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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ST. PIUS X HAD POLISH ROOTS

By COL. FRANCIS A. WINIARZ, Ph.D.

Less than 80 years before the 1978 election of Pope John Paul II, Jan Krawiec lived in Wielkopolska, Poland, during the time that his part of Poland fell into the hands of Prussia. Jan Krawiec subsequently found political asylum in Italy — first in Godero near Treviso, and finally in Riese, where he earned a ducat a day delivering mail.

Krawiec, which in English means tailor, in time, changed that Polish name of Krawiec to Sarto, which in Italian also means tailor. He now officially became known as Giovanni Battista Sarto, and married a young lady by the name of Margherita, a seamstress.

On June 2, 1835, a son was born to the Sartos, and they baptized him Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto. The boy "Peppi" to his family, was schooled in Castelfranco and Asolo. As a young man in 1858, he was ordained a priest.

As a middleaged man in 1884 he became Bishop of Mantua. And as he was getting on in age in 1893, two years before the Third Partition of what had been his father's homeland, he was nominated Cardinal and promoted to the See of Venice.

Following the death of pope Leo XIII on July 20, 1903, he was elected pope. However, it took seven voting sessions before the Cardinal Electors chose the sixty-eight-year-old Giuseppe Melchiorre Cardinal Sarto of Venice, who chose the papal name of Pius X.

On Sarto's election as pope, the scramble of high officials in the Austrian monarchy was almost as comic as it was tragic, as they scur-



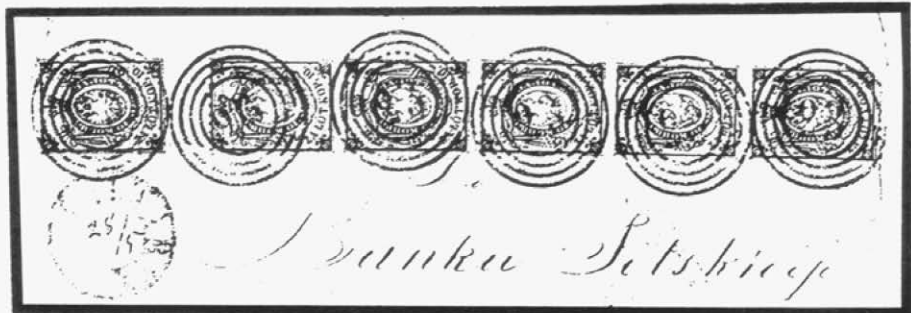
Vatican City honored St. Pius X with this 6 lire, one of a set of four different values (Scott's 145-148), a 1951 Issue.

ried to destroy all certificates and records that might reveal the Polish origins of Pius X. Nothing as great as that could possibly come from Poland was their rationale.

At least one trace of Sarto's Polish heritage did survive, however, in spite of all the efforts to the contrary. His father's original surname of Krawiec is still reflected in the Italian archives to this day as having been changed to Sarto. So, once again, "thumbs up" everybody!

POLISH RARITIES OF THE WROCLAW MUSEUM OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

By ZBIGNIEW MIKULSKI



1. An envelope with six stamps of Poland no. 1.

An envelope of a registered letter, mailed from Kalwaria (postmark no. 23 and a dater), addressed to a Polish Bank in Warsaw.

On the envelope were affixed one single stamp and a vertical strip composed of five joined stamps, with a gutter-margin of a sheet.

The factors contributing to the special philatelic value of the envelope are as follows:

- the number of stamps of Poland no. 1
- five stamps in one strip
- untorn margin
- the letter arrived at its destination by mail

The story of the envelope is not fully explained. The Museum's inventories, catalogues and some documentation were destroyed during the German occupation (WW-2). The new general inventory was written only in 1956, when the Museum changed its location from Warsaw to Wrocław. The transfer journals for the first time recorded the collection of Poland no. 1, including the above mentioned envelope as the property of the Museum.

Tadeusz Gryżewski in his article "Stamps from 1860 in the Albums", published by "Przegląd Filatelistyczny" (No. 14, 1949, pp. 103-105) describes the origins of the collection of Poland no. 1 in the Museum. The author maintains, that the chart was bought by the Museum from a Warsaw philatelic dealer, Arkadiusz Pachoński, together with other stamps from 1860 "a few years before the war". He also states, that before Pachoński bought it, the envelope had been offered to another philatelic dealer, E. Einchenenthal. He considered the price (500 złotych)

too high, and the transaction was not closed.

The records from the meetings of the Museum Council include a few remarks about transactions with Pachoński in the pre-war period. It is difficult to find out now, during which of the transactions the envelope became the property of the Museum.

2. Block of four duty stamps with a nominal value of 25 hallers.

(Cat. 37), from the so-called Kraków Issues of 1919.

The block of four duty stamps with a nominal value of 25 hal. (the first Polish edition for the previous Austrian-occupied territories), was reprinted with the use of the first typographic form. In the sheet of stamps, these stamps occupy the positions 33, 34, 43 and 44. The additional is a flaw, so called "thin Z" on the stamps 33 and 44. The total number of copies was only 50. The Museum possesses almost all catalogue numbers of this emission. Most of them have the statement of authenticity from an expert, Stanisław Mikstein. In 1986, when some exhibits, including the Kraków Issues were being described, another expert, Jan Ryblewski, was asked for consultation in order to exclude the possibility of falsification. The expert discovered that among the lower-value stamps reprinted, using the transition form, there was a real rarity, the block of four 25 hal. The stamps with



such a nominal value, reprinted in the first form, were a mystery until 1939. Till that time, only two items of this kind were known. In 1942 Józef Tyliński revealed the block and received an expertise on it from Stanisław Mikstein. In 1969, during the exploration of old inventories, the evaluation made by Stanisław Mikstein was accidentally found. It concerned these very stamps, and a ten-crown porto. The Museum bought this rarity in 1948 from Józef Tyliński, for the surplus in their collections.

3. Porto stamp with a nominal value of 10 crowns

(Cat. D-12), also from the Kraków Issues.



The ten-crown porto stamp (unstamped) is one of fifteen stamps, reprinted in 1919. Until not long ago, this ten-crown porto was considered to be an equivalent for the Museum's loss in collections during World War 2. After a thorough search in the Museum's archives it turned out that the stamp had been bought in 1937 from Jan Szczepański from Lwów for 2,500 złotys in the course of a bilateral exchange.

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THE "POLAND-SCOTLAND" BILATERAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION OF OCT. 17-20, 1985

By EDWARD D. WOLSKI

The bilateral exhibition took place in Łódź, where it was hosted by the Łódź Chapter of the P.Z.F. (Polish Philatelic Society). Out of 28 exhibitors, there were 15 Scot participants. The guests concentrated on British philately with only one exhibit called "A Polish Panorama", which covered postage stamps and postal covers of Poland 1836-1945."

Out of 13 exhibits presented by Polish collectors, three were on Great Britain, three of the Commonwealth and one on "Polish Soldiers on All Fronts in WW-II."

I was disappointed by the lack of a Scottish exhibit of Polish mail in Scotland.

The host club came up with a very well illustrated catalogue, a medal, a commemorative cancel and cover plus folder. All the graphics were done by Mr. J. W. Żurawski, a noted philatelist and author of many philatelic articles. Especially appropriate for this exhibition was Mr. Żurawski's article published in the catalogue on "Polish Soldiers in Scotland," followed by a map of "Polish Forces in Great Britain, 1940-1945."

Another article, by Mrs. Hampel, highlighted the development of close contacts between the Łódź philatelists and the "Scottish-Polish Philatelic Association." Łódź participated in "Scophilex 70" (Glasgow) with 24 collections.



Illustration 1: The commemorative cover features the banner which was donated to the Polish 10th Dragoons Regt. by the population of County Lanark. The commemorative cancel shows 2 shields with coats-of-arms of Łódź and Glasgow.

(Continued on page 477-13)

POSTAL HISTORY OF KRAKÓW 1846-1918

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE)

In Galicia two revenue offices were active: in Kraków (Western Galicia) and in Lwów (Eastern Galicia) and each of them used its own seal, which on its first line had the abbreviated name of the province in which the office was located; on its second line was the amount collected; the third line indicated the purpose of the fee, and the year of the payment was on the fourth line. From 1803 to the time of the annexation of Kraków by the Duchy of Warsaw (1809) the following newspaper seals were used in Kraków.

In 1850, the requirement of a fee for inland newspapers was canceled and foreign newspapers required the fee of 2 kreuzers. From March 1st, 1853 on, this payment was indicated by means of introduced newspaper stamps. The payment shown on these stamps was collected by the post office and then forwarded to the revenue institutions. The Newspaper stamps were affixed to the newspaper by the post office of the addressee and were canceled with a postmark and on this basis the payment was collected from the addressee. In Kraków and in all of Galicia the first revenue newspaper stamps were canceled exclusively by the post office with a date stamp. This duty was taken over by the Main Customs Office in Kraków after the next issue of revenue newspaper stamps and it continued doing this together with the post office until the end of 1899. Newspaper revenue stamps were also canceled by being overprinted with the text of the newspaper, a so called pre-cancellation — this means that the stamps were glued on the paper before the newspaper was printed.

The issuer of the newspaper stamps was at that time the Ministry of Finances which increased in this manner the income of the treasury. Due to the fact of this cooperation with the postal service and especially due to the fact that the revenue newspaper stamps are considered as full value philatelic collectibles, it is desirable to present here the activities of this institution in Kraków. The individualistic characteristic of this activity in Kraków are the markings of the Main Customs Office in Kraków shown in the illustration.



Seals of the Customs Office for newspapers and periodicals.

Another institution even more closely connected with the post and one may say being a part of its agenda and later, its integral part, was the Newspaper Expedition in Kraków. As the name of that institution indicates, it expedited newspapers using mail. For that reason, to facilitate the collection of fees for the expedition of newspapers (the Austrian mail was at that time under the Ministry of Commerce), within only seven months after the first postage stamps appeared, it issued the first newspaper stamp.

The Office of Newspaper Expedition in Kraków in the initial phase of its activities, around 1861, used its own seal and after its use was stopped, it used for a short time the postmark without the inscription "Kraków" which can be considered a curious action.

Since 1864, the newspaper stamps were canceled with the postmarks of the Main Post Office in Kraków. The illustration shows the postmarks of the Newspaper Expedition in Kraków.



Postmarks of the Office of Newspaper Expedition.

Postal Activity in Kraków During World War I.

The start of World War I in 1914 occurred at a time when Kraków became a greatly fortified city which was supposed to be a fortress during the time of war. The activities initiated on the eastern front and also the offensive of the Russian Army which was stopped only just before Kraków, forced Austria to shift numerous forces in that region of fighting.

Military Mail Activity in Kraków

After the Russians took Lwów, Kraków became the largest city in Galicia, it housed a large garrison which contained besides numerous military formations, also hospitals, supplies, repair shops, etc. The concentration of so much military in Kraków, required the assurance of an effective postal service and for this reason, during the first months of the war, the fieldpost number 186 was assigned to Kraków which functioned there probably until August, 1916, and then its responsibilities were taken over by the fieldpost numbered 180, which stayed in the city until the end of the war. Both fieldposts acted parallel with the post offices in Kraków. To coordinate the activities and to solve the problems resulting from the activities of two separate posts: the civilian and the military, the Military Department was installed at the Main Post Office in Kraków, Kraków I.

The fieldposts were used mainly by soldiers or officials of military institutions or paramilitary units after meeting the requirement of having their mail stamped with the name of their formation or of the military organization where they served. Private persons could use the fieldposts provided that their mail was addressed to soldiers in military units, which were served by the field post. Mail sent via the fieldpost was free of

postage, but additional services such as registration, required the payment of postage.

The civilian post accepted mail addressed to soldiers and forwarded it to the fieldpost. The civilian post also expedited the mail from the soldiers provided that it was stamped with the seal of the applicable military formation. Formation's seals in the case of the military and heading seals in the case of militarized and paramilitary organizations do not have a postal character but their presence on a piece of mail obligated the postal service to provide a free service and should thus not be omitted in this paper. Thanks to the formation seals sent by the fieldpost in Kraków, one is able to determine which military and paramilitary institutions were in Kraków or had their seat there. Several reproductions of such seals should make the problem under discussion here plausible.

In addition to the Austrian military units during the war, several institutions and organizations connected with the Polish Legions or with the Supreme National Committee were located in Kraków and they also used their own formation seals. Among these seals particular attention deserves the seal of a group of surgeons of prof. Dr. Maksymilian Rutkowski, connected with the voluntary department of the Red Cross No. 1 in Kraków. This seal was used in Kraków while the group of Prof. Rutkowski was being formed. After the departure to the front line, it is found on mail expedited by the fieldpost number 355, which served the 2nd Brigade of the Polish Legions.

POSTMARKS OF AUSTRIAN FIELDPOST



FORMATION SEALS OF THE POLISH LEGIONS AND THEIR INSTITUTIONS OF THE SUPREME NATIONAL COMMITTEE IN KRAKOW



KOMENDA PLACU LEGIONÓW POLSK.
i STACJA ZBORNIA
w KRAKOWIE

Hrzecz urzędowa N. K. N.
wolna od opłaty pocztowej.

Grupa chirurgów. Die Chirurgen Gruppe
Prof. Dr. RUTKOWSKIEGO dus Prof. Dr. RUTKOWSKI
w połączeniu z ochotniczym im Verband mit der
Oddziałem sanitarnym Freiwilligen Sanitäts Abteilung
Czerwonego Krzyża Nr. 1. d. Rot-Kreuz Nr. 1.
w KRAKOWIE. in KRAKAU

FORMATION SEALS OF AUSTRIAN UNITS AND MILITARY INSTITUTIONS



K.K. LANDWEHRINFANTERIEREGIMENT
KRAKAU Nr. 16

K.u.k. Festungsspital No. 4 in Krakau



The Functioning of the Red Cross in the Exchange of Prisoner of War Correspondence

Under the conditions of the ongoing war, the parties of the conflict did not have a direct postal connection but the need for it increased each day because on the one side as well as on the other side of the fighting armies the number of prisoners of war kept increasing.

According to the binding international conventions, the mediatorship in the exchange of correspondence between the prisoners of war and their families was the responsibility of the Red Cross. To simplify and facilitate the exchange of correspondence (which applied in particular to the addresses due to the differing alphabets), the "Department of the Red Cross in Kraków – Section of Inquiries" designed and then issued "Cards for the Correspondence with Prisoners of War in Russia." The card with its part for correspondence, addressed to the prisoner of war in Polish was to be brought or forwarded to the Section of Inquiries of the Polish Red Cross in Kraków. They forwarded it then to Vienna where in the General Central Bureau of Censorship, Department Vienna, (Gemeinsames Zentr. Nachw. Büro Zensor Abteilung Wien), the entire correspondence (both arriving and departing) of the Austrian prisoners of war in Russia was censored. From Vienna through agencies of the World Organization of the Red Cross, the correspondence was forwarded to Russia and in the same manner it arrived from Russia through Vienna in Kraków. On the Red Cross cards mailed from Kraków and arriving in Kraków, there are in principle no Austrian mail markings which confirm the assumption that the post did not expedite this type of mail. There were however cases where against advice, such cards were dropped in mailboxes without being enclosed in an envelope and then the post office imprinted the date postmark directly on the correspondence card of the Red Cross and then forwarded it to the section of inquiry of that organization in Kraków. Cards from prisoners of war in Russia (mostly Poles) which were sent to Kraków, have the date postmarks of Russian post offices in places where the prisoner of war camps were located and the seals of the War Censorship in Moscow. One can conclude from this that in the Russian territory, (more correctly on the route to Moscow from the place where the camp was located), they were expedited by civilian mail. The correspondence with prisoners of war was free but the Red Cross collected a small payment of four or six halerzy for the form if it was a double card with a part for the answered by the prisoner.

The Section of Inquiries of the Department of the Red Cross in Kraków, during the duration of the war, produced several editions of the correspondence cards, which can be distinguished from each other by details in the text and the printing form.

The basic subdivision distinguishes between cards from the prisoner and cards with a part for the answer.

Other differences which occur on cards pertain to:

- inscriptions which indicate the issuer of the card which are made either bilingual, in German and Polish or in Polish only.
- The name of the issuer of the card which is given as "Galician Division of the Austrian Red Cross in Kraków" or "The Section of Inquiries of the National Society of the Red Cross in Kraków." (This inscription is imprinted in two positions which are inverted in respect to each other).
- The imprinted word "Russie" in the address to the prisoner in red or in black.
- The addition of "Siberie" after "Russie."

Artykuł 14. XI. 111.

Correspondance des Prisonniers de Guerre

Nadawca: *Maryja Kuznec* | Kriegsgefangener: *...*

Kraków | PORT OF PRISON

RUSSIE | Adresse polska: ~~SIBERIE~~ | ~~ABTETUN~~

Gubernia: *Kurska* | Губ. *Курская*

Miejscowość: *Kursk* | Город *Курск*

Gubernskaja woznina 15 | *Губернская вознина 15*

Austryjcki wóltec wojenny | Австрийскому военнопленному

Signata: *Lech Cel. Imie: ~~Baleslaw~~* | *Семинская Каздань*

Nazwisko: *Kuznec* | *...*

Państwo: *20* | *...*

Róża j. w. | Cena 4 hal. | Nachdruck verboten.

Mail to a prisoner in Russia

Censorship of the Correspondence

The censorship of correspondence within the territory of the Austrian Empire was introduced immediately after the beginning of the war. From the evolution of the texts of the censorship marks used in Kraków one can conclude that this institution changed its internal structure during its existence.

Thus the censorship rubber stamps contained the following wordings and described the censoring authority:

- Royal & Imperial letter censorship, Krakow
- Royal & Imperial Censorship Post 2/Krakow
- Royal & Imperial Military Censorship 2/Krakow 1
- Royal & Imperial Military Censorship /Krakow 2
- Censored officially by the Military
- Censored, Main Post Office
- Censored, Railroad Station Post Office

Censorship marks without the indication of their military character were also used but eventually the version which indicated military censorship was accepted. Censorship offices were located at post offices where the entire correspondence of the city passed through. In Kraków these post offices were: Kraków 1 and the post office at the railroad

station, Kraków 2. The rubber stamp which confirmed that the mail had been censored contained usually the name of the post office where it was done. There exist stamps without the name of the post office and in such cases one can only assume that they were imprinted at the town from which the mail was sent. The office of censorship in Kraków at the main post office also used labels to seal letters which arrived from abroad and were opened. In principle, all letters were to undergo censorship and thus had to have a censorship seal imprinted. Considering this and the enormous amount of mail which arrived in Kraków, the censorship office in Kraków was significantly extended and used numerous rubber stamps during the war. These rubber stamps became used up and were replaced by stamps of the same text but not always in exactly the same shape and size. All that resulted in Kraków in numerous censorship stamps which can be distinguished which are shown in the illustration with the note that most likely not all censorship stamps used in Kraków have so far been documented.

K. k. Postamt Krakau 1
Abteilung für Militär

ZENSURIERT
k. u. k. Zensurstelle 2 Krakau

ZENSURIERT
k. u. k. Zensurstelle 1 Krakau

K. u. K. BRIEF ZENSUR-KOMMISSION 2
K R A K A U

Zensuriert
K. u. k. Zensurstelle 2
K R A K A U

Zensuriert Bhf.

Zensuriert
Hauptpostamt

Zensuriert

~~ZENSURIERT~~

ZENSURIERT.

Zensuriert



K. u. k. Militärzensur
Krakau 2

K. u. k. Militärzensur
K R A K A U 2

K. u. k. Militärzensur
Krakau II

K. u. K. MILITARZENSUR
K R A K A U 2

Censorship label for
opened mail from abroad.

K. u. k. Militärzensur
K R A K A U 1.



Zensuriert
Krakau 2.

Zensuriert
Bahnpostamt

K. u. k. Militärzensur
Krakau 2

ÜBERPRÜFT
K. u. K. FESTUNGSKOMMANDO KRAKAU



Prof

Imperial and Royal Wisła Fleet

During the ongoing war, Kraków obtained connections by means of aviation and via waterways by means of river ships. The Wisła River which flowed through Kraków was not completely regulated and was not sufficiently deep but its advantage was that it passed by numerous towns which were at that time directly at the rear of the front line. The Wisła, which for many centuries was used to transport materials, was used for this purpose also this time during the war. During the first months of the war in 1914, the Austrian military authorities started in Kraków the formation of the Wisła Fleet for strategic reasons, because at that time the front line was located near Puławy and the river traffic facilitated the supply of the fighting army. At first it was assumed that Puławy would be the last town to be reached by the Wisła Fleet, but later because of the requirements of the Austrian Garrison in Dębno, the range was extended to that town.

The main base of the Command of the Wisła Fleet was Kraków, where its subordinate military units were located:

The 1st Company of River Sailing of the Wisła Fleet.

The Construction Unit for the Regulation of the Wisła.

The Command of the Wisła Transport line.

The ships were manned by Austrian military personnel with some exceptions. The Wisła Fleet was used for the transportation of mail by means of the official "Ship Field Post" which functioned on the ships. The correspondence transported by a ship was delivered to post offices in places on the banks of the Wisła and was then, if necessary, transported further via the civilian mail or via Fieldpost. In principle, all personnel on military duty in the Wisła Fleet were not required to pay postage if their mail had imprinted the formation seal (in this case, the seal of the Wisła Fleet).

In 1916, the front line had shifted far to the east from the Wisła and thus the Wisła Fleet did not have much of a strategic meaning any more and finally stopped its operation as being obsolete.

Information contained in this chapter only indicates the existence of the "Wisła Fleet" in Kraków. Exhaustive and most interesting information on this subject were given by Stefan Danielewski and Mieczysław Kamiński in the paper "Austro-Hungarian Gunboat Mail on the Vistula 1914-1918", published in "The American Philatelist" in February, 1993.



K.u.K. Weichseltransportlinienkommando

K. U. K. WEICHELFLOTILLE
KOMMANDO

D. FLUSS-SCHIFFFAHRTS-KOMPAGNIE No. 1.

Mail expedited via the fieldpost of the Wisla Fleet.



*Apst. v.
Philippovic,
Amt. v. J. J. J.
Kraak.*

*Abender:
Ordnungs:
Hilfs:
Brenn:
Mittler:
Post:
Präsident:*

*K. u. k. Weichselregulierung
K. u. k. Weichselregulierung
K. u. k. Weichselregulierung*

ÜBERPRÜFT

K. u. k. Weichselregulierung
Zensuramt
Hauptpostamt



*Jau
Ruzica v. Philippovic
Jurevica 18
Zagreb
Kroatien.*

K. u. k. Weichselregulierung
Feldpostkorrespondenzkarte



*Jau
Ruzica v. Philippovic
Brünn
Kraakgasse 4 - 5 St.*

Censorship label opened mail from abroad.

Riflemen Field Post

World War I, in which the partitioners of Poland found themselves in two opposing military blocks, gave our country a chance to win independence.

On August 6, 1914, the First Cadre Riflemen Company marched from Kraków on orders from the Commander Piłsudski and crossed the partition border near Michałowice. On the same day, the Riflemen Stage Command in Kraków, initiated the first fieldpost, whose purpose was the maintenance and exchange of correspondence between the riflemen and their families. Such need arose in connection with the success on the front line: on August 7th, Miechów was taken and August 12th, Kielce.

The organizer and the first commander of the riflemen field post was the rifleman Władysław Dzwonkowski with the alias, "Skierka". The location of the post was in a store which was empty at that time, at 6 Dunajewska Street and was later moved to a building located at the corner of Jagiellońska and St. Anne Streets.

(To be continued)

THE "POLAND-SCOTLAND" PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

(Continued from page 477-4)



Illustration 2: This cover page of the 4-page folder indicates that Mr. Żurawski is not only an avid collector of militaria and heraldry but also a talented illustrator. The medal, shown in the center, was also produced by Mr. Żurawski.

NEW ISSUES

Poland began a new stamp series March 21 featuring the signs of the zodiac. The series started with a 70-grosz value depicting two rams. The rams symbolize Aries, the first sign of the zodiac.

On the stamp, one ram is wearing a suit. He is carrying the head of the other ram. Maciej Jedrysik created the design. The stamp was printed in Poland by rotogravure in sheets of 100.

People born between March 21 and April 19 are considered to be born under the sign of Aries. Typical characteristics of those of the sign include boldness, courage, determination, energy, a hot temper and impatience.

Other recent stamps from Poland include a set of four featuring Polish yachts, one of which is named after Frederic Chopin; an Architecture set; a commemorative for the 400th anniversary of the transfer of the Polish capital from Kraków to Warsaw; a commemorative marking the 75th birth anniversary of poet Krzysztof Kamil Baczyński; and a Valentine stamp. The last stamp depicts two cherries and is inscribed "Kocham Cię," meaning "I love you," according to information from the Polish post office.

The Polish state printer (PWPW) produced 6 million copies of the Valentine stamps.

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GEORGE K. KAY

THE 40 gr. COPERNICUS MONUMENT STAMP — A Philatelic Maze

Reprinted from "the Polish Philatelic Review"
Official Bulletin of the Society for Polish Philately in
in Great Britain



Sometimes a curious find turns out to be a mere beginning. The present quest started many years ago on seeing a notice in Gibbon's Stamp Monthly of May, 1958 under the heading "Poland 40gr 1955. Two re-entries." It described and illustrated clear re-entries on the stamp within the 0 of value, and corresponding doubling above the astrolabe held by the astronomer.

The handbook "Polskie Znaki Pocztowe" of 1960 — the "bible" of Polish philately — notes in Vol. II re-entries on the 5 gr. value (no. 761: different monument, same issue) but does not refer to any varieties of the 40 gr (no. 765). Nor is there any mention of such re-entries in "Katalog specjalizowany znaków pocztowych na ziemiach polskich 1990."

Examination of several hundred copies of the 40 gr stamp in singles, pairs, strips and blocks resulted in finding a single copy of the re-entries mentioned in SGM and also a number of other varieties elsewhere in the design. Admittedly these are small, but recognizable with a reasonably strong magnifier — and philatelically far more significant than the accidental specks of dust settling on printing plates of thousands of photogravure-printed modern stamps which turn out to be merely one-off occurrences.

What makes re-entries different? Let us examine the production of a line engraved stamp, especially since this particular design was engraved by that fabulous craftsman, Czesław Słania. He translated the designer's original artwork for print production by engraving it on steel in actual stamp size, we have all seen photographs of him in action.

Such engraving becomes the "master die". It is never used for actual printing of stamps, being far too precious. The only occasions on which printing ink touches this die is for the purpose of producing "progress proofs" so that the designer can examine in detail his work at any given stage before carrying on. When the entire

NIK M. KOPERNIKA WARSZ.



Left: Area of average "normal" stamp design in which re-entries occur. Sharpness and thickness of lines varies depending on quality of inking. For the sake of clarity re-entries have been drawn-in.

Top right: Doubling inside of "0" of value and above astrolabe.

Right: Extra lines on pedestal of monument.



design is completed, a few final proofs are printed, usually in black.

If passed for production, the die is hardened and a copy die made. This die is attached to a rounded tool, allowing the design to be applied under great pressure to the actual printing plate by a "rocking" motion, repeating it in precise positions for the number of stamps of an entire sheet.

Proof prints are made from the complete plate for close examination of each image. Assuming everything is correct, color proofs are prepared to decide on the ink shade to be used and production can begin. If, however, one of these images is unacceptable, the relevant part must be replaced. Should the fault be merely minor, a re-entry may be attempted by accurately impressing the copy die again in the relevant place. Given the tiny size of a stamp, it is clear that such remedial work may not always be 100% accurate, which then results in doubling the image on small sections of the design. When printed on paper this doubling becomes evident and receives the philatelic name of "re-entry." In fact a more accurate term would be a **faulty** re-entry, as an accurate one would be invisible! Once printed, we can then find its whereabouts on the plate, hence able to "plate" it.



Left: Short re-entry above toe cap; long prominent line on pedestal.



Right: Long re-entry above foot; line above seat.



Left: Extra line either side of corner, different levels - two re-entries?



Right: Re-entry to left of knee; extra line in cloak, left of thigh.

However, let us not quibble here about the definition but adhere to the one universally accepted in our world. So — why should there be so many re-entries on this stamp?

"Polskie Znaki Pocztowe" tells us that such was the demand for this particular value that 13 printings were made, totalling something like 200 million stamps, from over thirty plates! During the massive production cycles these were bound to suffer from wear and tear, requiring sharpening of images, in other words "re-entering" the copy die. In fact, it appears that certain images received not merely one but two re-entries.

Because no complete sheets of the stamp were available for examination, this short article can be no more than a pointer to the rich field open to anyone having access to full sheets of every plate, if they do exist. If so, it would be a lifetime's work for someone!

Not that it should prevent any sufficiently motivated philatelist to attempt further study. With an inexpensive stamp such as no. 765, practically anyone could build up a small sample collection of re-entries to attract attention at your next display — and report any new finds to this publication?

J. M. S. KALUSKI

STAMPS TO LOOK FOR AND STAMPS TO AVOID

Centenary of the November Uprising Issue - 1930



Scott #265
Stylized
soldier

The 5 gr. value was printed in dark and light shades of purple while the 25 gr. value in three shades: light brown, red brown and brown red. The Post Office suspended the sale of the 25 gr. stamp for several months to investigate the forgery of this stamp. There are very few examples of this postal forgery which was line perforated 11 x 10 $\frac{1}{4}$. There is no horizontal line between the frame and the tip of the second wing. The genuine is harrow perforated 12 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ and one line between the top frame and the second wing.

"Challenge" Air Race



Scott
#C10

Printed on paper with left or right watermarks. Line perforations: 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$. I have also unrecorded perforations: 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12; 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13; and 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. For the last 29 years I have been looking for a mint copy with the right watermark. If I did not have a used copy I would have doubted its existence.

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