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Bookplates on Postal Subjects: Catalogue 1977
[*Ex Libris o Tematyce Pocztovej: Katalog 1977*]
Muzeum Poczty i Telekomunikacji, Wrocław, Poland, 1977

Translation of the introductory text only, p.4

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EX LIBRIS ON POSTAL SUBJECTS: CATALOGUE 1977

The exposition *Bookplates on postal subjects*, is a continuation of the cycle of artistic exhibitions presented at the Muzeum Poczty i Telekomunikacji of Wrocław. It includes vignettes intended for books, thematically tied to the art of collecting books, periodicals, postal souvenirs and stamps. We have come to the point that it is possible to recognize the bookplate with postal or philatelic themes. In the 1950s, there were just a little over about fifteen philatelic libraries in Poland that had their own bookplates for their books. Nowadays, there are more than 120. This bears witness to the increasing popularity of this area of the art of collecting.

At this show, we have presented exclusively those bookplates whose design included a postal or philatelic motif. There are therefore, reproductions of couriers, postmen, postal fakes, letters, stamps, postmarks and also mail boxes and printing machines. The repetition of the symbols notwithstanding, the exposition is not boring because in most cases, the philatelic or postal motif is accompanied by other elements related to the interests or the trade of the owner of the bookplate and besides, the vignettes are the production of artists having different personalities and employing different graphical techniques. Most-frequently, we have woodcuts, but there also etchings, prints on copper, linotypes, zincographs and lithographs. The visitor will certainly admire the prints on wood of **Konstanty Sopoćko**, **Eugeniusz Pichell**, **Nasy Arpad**, **Antal Fery**, and of **Krystyna Wróblewska**; the delicate drawing of the prints on copper by **Wojciech Jakubowski**, the linotypes and the etchings by **Stanisław Dawski**.

The oldest bookplate in the collection dates back to the year 1919; it has been produced by **Zygmunt Klemensiewicz** for the eminent philatelist **Włodzimierz Rachmanow**. Another bookplate dates from 1926; it was created by **Józef Tom** for **Włodzimierz Polański**, the founder and director of the Postal Museum.

The collection presented at the Exposition comes in its entirety from the collections owned by the Museum. It includes more than 250 bookplates. It is divided in three parts. The first part contains the bookplates of postal libraries and museums, the second, the bookplates of Polish collectors and the third, those of foreign collectors. These pieces are shown according to a certain order that conforms to our tables, that is, we mention the ordinal number of the bookplate, the name of its owner and of its artist, a brief description, the date when it was made, its dimensions, and the catalog number. To use the catalog, one must start from the alphabetical order of the artists. The catalog is the first scientific inventory of bookplates with a postal theme. We believe that our exposition will interest all the collectors of this artistic domain and that it will promote artistic emotions in all the visitors.

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