

STAMP COLLECTING

NIKOLAI LENIN

(Continued from last Week)

In 1917 Lenin moved to Zurich, Switzerland. At this time the revolution in Russia was started as shown on Scott's No. 378—Mutiny of the Crew of The Kronstadt. No. 380—Type of people taking part in the revolution, together with No. 375 "Laborer-Soldier-Peasant." No. 381 the four spoken languages of the Soviet Union. The 1933 Series commemorating the three bolshevist martyrs. The 1933 Series commemorating the 15th anniversary of the shooting of the twenty-six Commissars and the monument to the memory. The Czar and his family murdered—a new reign of terror. Lenin was hemmed in and could not get out of Switzerland into Russia.

The People's Council held rule in Russia. A weak party with no strong head. The currency started to drop. Attention is called to the stamps of this republic—a Provisional Republic—Series of 1917. Then the Bolsheviki wing under the leadership of Kerensky took control. One can be interested in the chain breaker stamps of the Bolsheviki rule of 1918.

In 1918 through the efforts of German Socialists, Lenin and thirty of his members were smuggled out of Switzerland in sealed cars through Germany and over the Russian borders. The years of inaction until 1917 had sharpened Lenin for his party. His chance had come. Attention is called to the five kop stamp of the 1933 series commemorating the 15th anniversary of the October Revolution, portraying street fighting and also the three kop stamp of the same series—the statue of Lenin pointing his finger at the Czar and Royalty of Russia. The Social Revolutionaries with Kerensky at the head of the government was also weak. Lenin knew this and their part in the drama was minor in his mind. He knew he was to guide the revolution in the next five years, to organize a government and a national industry, to set up an institution, to sovietize the world, to win a civil war, to defeat the Allied Powers indirectly and to begin to remold a people. It was all done against tremendous opposition. Without Lenin the Soviet Union knew defeat. He forced the Revolution and made it work. Kerensky had set up The Provisional against Lenin's Will. Stalin left him yet he continued on tearing down The Provisional Form of Government. Let us stop a minute to describe this man Lenin: He was a man without emotions—was quiet but not drowsy. Loved children—laughed loudly at little things. Was full of fury and merciless to his opponents. He knew hatred and did not know pity. He led a very simple life. Wealth was no object to him—dress had no appeal to him. Everything belonged to the people or Workers of Russia. All power to the Soviets—all other must go. Lenin stayed away from The Provisional Government. Hands off was his motto. He knew it would fall. Without him Kerensky and Stalin could not last very long. He let them run their course—without bloodshed.

He became a menace to them. They wanted him arrested but never once did they do it. Trotsky had now become his chief lieutenant. Lenin moved to Finland for three months. He kept in touch with his officers, not far away yet near enough to issue orders. Kerensky played into his hands at every turn. He shaved his beard off, put on a wig and started back to Russia. Time had been set for the taking over the Government of Kerensky. This was done on November 7, 1919. Unrecognized he went through the door of The Bolsheviki's headquarters and within eight hours the government, the army, the navy, and the common people were with him. Scott's stamps No. 376 and 377 show the Victory march. Stamp No. 379 shows a map portraying the territory that came under his control. Soviet was in power. The party he had built in his mind in 1895 was in power. He then threw all Soviet States into one union or republic. This can be followed on the stamps of the various Soviet states. The single stamp of the 15th anniversary of the order of the Red Flag issued in 1933 shows the Red Flag under which all these various states united. Also a recent issue of stamps, 1933, known as the Ethnographical Set shows the different races of people that are now known as the Union of Socialist Soviet Republic.

One can trace through their catalogue the stamps of the Soviet Republic, the provisional stamps and then the regular issue; always The Worker, The Soldier and The Peasant, the Farm and Factory Girl, The People. There one will find much interest behind each and every series of these stamps. Then the stamps showing the achievements of Lenin in industrial and agricultural training. Stamps No. 656 and 657—No. 438 to 441. The building of hydro electric project, reaping machines, machinery, bridge construction, aeroplane and Zeppelin construction. Famine and child's welfare relief. One stamp that stands out is that showing a family reading, studying Soviet propaganda. This stamp issue in connection with the educational exhibition at Leningrad. Aeronautics, navy, cavalrymen and army built up and organized—all under his leadership. Stamps of the U.S.S.R. all show his interesting accomplishments.

Lenin's Empire became as that of the Czar's. He ruled with an iron hand but was very good to the under dog. They were the power. Lenin passed to his reward on January 21, 1924, after a series of illnesses. He did not rule long but he had set the stage. He had put the U.S.S.R. in motion—his spirit carries the U.S.S.R. forward. The Union went in mourning for him. A special mourning stamp was hurriedly printed and was placed on sale the day of his burial. This series takes Scott's number as No. 265 to 272. The design represents the head and bust of Lenin, which is in black on a white ground, with an outside border of red—symbolizing the Soviet colors. In 1925 an-

KNOW YOUR WORLD

GDYNIA, POLAND

By Central Press Canadian

DESCRIPTIVE—Gdynia, the world port of Poland is situated on the Polish Corridor on the Baltic Sea. The city has been built to order in less than a decade and has a population today of 50,000.

HISTORY—For centuries Poland had no outlet on the sea. Following the Great War, President Woodrow Wilson of the United States, advocated a world seaport and Poland set about building a great harbor which would serve American trade. Enormous sums have been spent in transforming the lonely sand dunes into a thriving modern city. A great sea wall was built nine miles out into the Baltic, forming one of the greatest sheltered harbors in the world. In this scientifically planned harbor, the finest equipment has been installed. There are forests of cranes and the newest machinery for handling cargoes. The large refrigerating plant is capable of handling entire railroad trains. The city has been built rapidly with beautiful boulevards, modern hotels, banks, theatres, department stores and bathing beaches.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY—Thirty-three ocean lanes converge at Gdynia. Last year more than 7,200 ships entered the port, carrying 5,000,000 tons of cargo. As world trade with Russia develops Gdynia is expected to become one of the greatest harbors of the world.

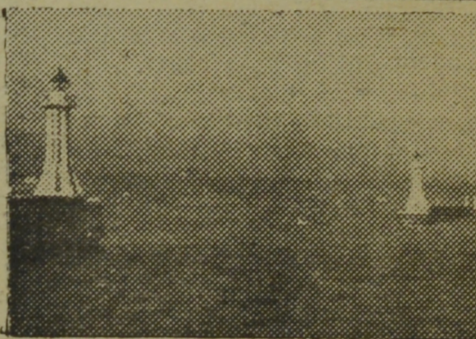
POINTS OF INTEREST—Gdynia is a port of entry for tourists visiting romantic Poland. Within a few miles of the city are relics of medieval Europe. Cathedrals, town halls and other buildings date from the tenth or twelfth centuries.



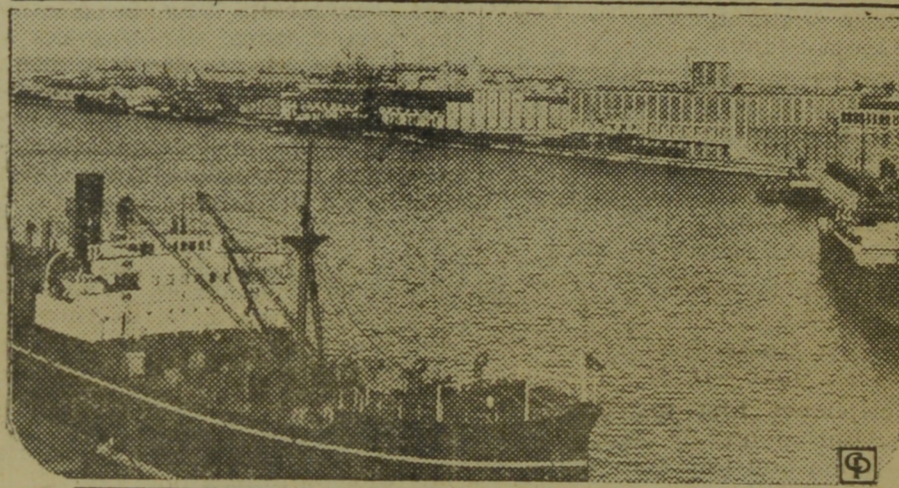
[An "Atlantic City" in the Baltic.]



"Tenth of February" street.



Entrance to the port.



View of the port, GDYNIA

The map of Europe has been repeatedly redrawn but the charm of this region remains unchanged.

other series of two stamps was issued in his memory, Scott's No. 302 and 303, 1926 another series of three stamps No. 342 to 344. His portrait will also be found on some of the stamps of the regular series after his death. He would never allow his portrait upon a stamp while he lived. His body was preserved and put on exhibition in its underground mausoleum.

A series of stamps, known as Scott's No. 294 to 301, was issued on January 21, 1925, in Lenin's memory showing the mausoleum where his body is laid. This series of stamps were issued on the anniversary of his death. This picture shows the original tomb or mausoleum. Another series of stamps issued this year, 1934, to commemorate the tenth anniversary of his death, show the new mausoleum of Lenin. In the background of these stamps one can see the Kremlin. On the left is visible the Spasskaja Tower of Kremlin with a clock. This clock at midnight every night plays the International, the Soviet hymn, which is picked up and broadcast by radio.

In this tomb Lenin lies today. The value of Lenin: In life—emo-

tionalism; In death—inspiration to Russia.

Russia never had a national hero in all its history until Lenin. His theory is still marching on, yet in death—he is still the master.

100-POUND SPONGE

Sponges grow to gigantic sizes in their natural state. One recently fished from the great sponge bed off the Bahamas, two hundred miles long and sixty-four miles wide and known as The Mud, measured over ten feet in girth and weighed 100 pounds when dried. Capturing such a monster is toilsome and dangerous work. The fisherman has first to detach its root with his harpoon, a hooked bamboo rod from twenty to thirty feet in length, and then call in numerous helpers to land his catch.

When the slubbing, gelatinous mass reaches the surface, a diver jumps into the shark-infested water and strips it of superfluous trimmings.

Nassau, the capital of the Bahamas, now justly claims to be the world's leading sponge market. When the sponge fishers return with their spoils, beaten and dried and free from impurities, its quay hums with the jostling activity of 200 schooners and 300 sloops, all striving to discharge their cargoes at once. The value of the catch amounts to \$600,000 a year. The best-quality sponges fetch \$3,500 a ton, and the poorest about \$15 a hundredweight.

Elm wood has, up till now, been regarded as of little use because of its tendency to warp. A new process has been discovered that is said to cure this defect.

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MICKEY MOUSE

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

By WALT DISNEY

