

# THE CZECHO-SLOVAK SPECIALIST



OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
THE CZECHO-SLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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Editor: Peter Kreischer, 6616 S. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Vol. 2

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No. 8

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following members have been nominated for Officers for the Year 1941:

President — Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, New York  
1st Vice Pres. — Fred Peters, Chicago  
2nd Vice Pres. — Louis A. Ruzicka, Oakland, Cal.  
Secretary — J. W. Lowey, New York  
Treasurer — Guy Greenawalt, Arlington, Va.  
Editor — Peter Kreischer, Chicago  
Librarian — Mildred M. Glawe, Chicago

Chairman of the Judicial Board — W. G. Slocum, New York

Assistants:

Alfons Starch, N. Y.; Frank Stern, Jackson Hgts., L. I.; J. W. Lowey, New York

Chairman of the Rules Committee — Frank J. Kovarik, Chicago

Assistants:

John Velek, Cicero, Ill.; A. J. Hrivnak, Riverside, Ill.

Signed, Frank J. Kovarik, Chairman.

Note: Further Nominations may be made by the members (Art. V, Sec. 2, Cons.) and are to be sent to the Secretary immediately. Unless further nominations are received the above listed candidates shall be declared elected without taking a customary ballot.

(Editor)

## SALES AND EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

Anybody wishing to use our new sales and exchange facilities please send in your books now. The rules and regulations are printed in this issue. The only expenses you will have are the mailing costs to the next member in the circuit. The material on hand and promised me so far is: U.S.A. mint and used and Plate Numbers, Danzig, C.S.R. I assume that most of us collect also at least U.S.A., and also some other foreign countries besides Czechoslovakia. Right after the New Year the first circuit will go out, anybody who has not joined up yet can

do so at any time. Please let me know what countries you collect to get an idea what to send out. If you have not written yet and want to get in on the first circuit please do it now, the more members we get to participate the better the sales and exchange plan will work out.

Wolfgang Fritzsche  
P.O. Box 175  
Valley Stream, L.I.N.Y.

## Rules of the Sales and Exchange Circuit

- 1) Mount your stamps in your own books, which must be of size 6 x 3½" and use good hinges.
- 2) The base is Scotts Catalogue, if

you use some specialized catalogue like Ekstein, Michel etc. please state so. Above the stamps write the catalogue number, below the stamps write the catalogue price and at the left the net price for which you want to sell and trade and exchange since our exchanges are done only on a net per net basis.

3) The material has to stay with the Sales and Exchange Dept. at least for the time which is required to send the book through one circuit.

4) After being retired from the circuit the books will be checked and the credits paid to the owners, or if they wish they can leave the credit here on account for future use. Members wishing to exchange only will be notified of the amount taken from their books and such credit can be used up in following circuits.

5) Charges are 10% of sales created plus return postage on books plus money order fee if the cash is wanted immediately. This last fee can be saved if members exchange only or if they leave their credits for future use or have their accounts balanced only once a year.

6) When receiving a circuit check the number of books. Should you find empty spaces in some books, notify the sender of the circuit, who is responsible for such amounts and also notify the exchange manager. Write in such spaces "found empty" with your name and number, and it will be charged to the member who had the circuit before you.

7) When taking stamps from the books make sure to sign each space where you took a stamp with your name or initial and also with your membership number and enter the total amount taken from each book in the report sheet.

8) Don't keep the books too long, 3 days average should be sufficient. After you are through send the circuit to the next member, whose name and address you will find on the list accompanying each circuit. Always send the circuit 3rd. class mail insured. Fill out the report sheet and

send it to the exchange manager together with the money. If you exchange only or expect or have a credit, just send the report slip.

9) Switching of stamps, substituting poor copies for better ones, is stealing and will be dealt with as the crime warrants.

10) Each member is responsible for the full amount of the circuit as long as it is in his possession, up to the time he receives the insurance receipt from the Post Office or if delivered personally up to the time he gets a receipt from the next member.

11) Members wishing to exchange only will get an advance credit of about 25% of the net value of the books sent in. Should they overdraw or underdraw their credit, the differences will always be settled in cash (money order)

12) Money orders must be made payable to the exchange manager. Checks must be in New York funds or the bank exchange fee will be charged to sender of such check.

#### AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

In a letter to me, Secretary Lowey makes a motion that the following Amendment to the Constitution be adopted:

.... "That the President be empowered to nominate 3 members who are to serve on a Board of Trustees."

I have been asked to second the motion, however, in view of the fact that no power to make nominations is necessary, with the Secretary's permission, I wish to restate the motion to read, "That the President be empowered to **select** 3 members to serve as a Board of Trustees". This motion has been seconded by Frank Kovarik. Before this motion is passed and the Amendment is adopted I wish to further state that in my opinion I believe that the selection of members to serve as a Board of Trustees should be made by the membership at large through the medium of a ballot at the time of

### Officers of the Czecho-Slovak Philatelic Society of North America

President: George F. Smyth, 945 Main St., Bridgeport, Connecticut.  
Secretary: J. W. Lowey, 201 Marcy Pl., New York, N. Y.  
Treasurer: Guy Greenawalt, 4000 Fifth St., North., Arlington, Va.  
Editor: Peter Kreischer, 6616 S. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, Illinois.  
Librarian: Mrs. M. Glawe, 9640 S. Seeley Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

general election. Nominations to be made by any member as per Article V, Sec. 2, of the constitution. Further discussion on this matter is in order and should be sent to the Secretary so that the matter can be closed at the meeting in New York on the 2nd of December.

Peter Kreischer

The article "Names and Men behind Guarantee Marks" which appeared in the Specialist recently has been reprinted in the October 12 issue of the "International Stamp Review".

On October 28th, Anniversary Day of the Independence of Czechoslovakia, the Czechoslovak community of Greater New York held a Giant Bazaar at the Bohemian National Hall and Sokol Hall which lasted for an entire week. Twenty Thousand persons attended the affair. During the Commemoration a small souvenir sheet was sold. Printed on white paper it shows within a red border the inscription, on top; "Czecho-Slovak Bazaar Oct., 20-28, 1940, New York." On the bottom; "For the benefit of Czechoslovak Refugees and Relief Fund". In the center of the sheetlet affixed are various single stamps of the late issues of the Republic and rubber cancelled in red; "Ceskosl. Odboj v Americe Oslavy 28 Rijna".

Any one interested in obtaining these souvenirs can have them at 25 cents a single sheet from member Alfons Stach.

#### ATTENTION MEMBERS

Beginning with the December 7th issue, the National Weekly, "STAMPS", is inaugurating a novel idea. Don't stop reading! Each issue will be dedicated to a certain country and will contain articles by and for Specialists in that particular country.

Mr. Lowey has been approached by the publishers of Stamps to "take over" the Czechoslovak issue and he has gladly consented. This primarily for the reason that such an issue will afford an opportunity to attract new members for our Society. Generous space has been allotted and with a paid subscription circulation of 35,000 it is evident that this will afford excellent publicity.

The Czechoslovakia issue, which will be the first of the series will appear on December 7th. The various articles, which contain about 12,000 typewritten words, contain intimate and interesting facts about 'Philately in Czechoslovakia from 1918 to 1938'. A second article deals with the Scout issues. A third large article is about the Czechoslovakia Army Post in Siberia and the fourth and final chapter is dedicated to the Revolutionary Issues. All articles are substantially illustrated and the front cover of the magazine will be quite appropriate. Against a background of red, white and blue will appear the Coat of Arms of Czechoslovakia below which will be printed a portrait of former President Masaryk.

Since the various articles will contain much information of value to the members it is suggested that they acquire a copy of the magazine. It should be stated here that Mr. Lowey will not be able to provide copies. Those interested in securing copies should ask their nearest news stand to reserve a copy if they are not subscribers.

#### ATTENTION NEW YORK MEMBERS

The next meeting of the New York Chapter will be held on Monday, December 2nd, at the regular place, 1400 Second Ave.

#### CICERO-BERWYN EXHIBITION

The recent Cicero-Berwyn Philatelic Exhibition proved to be a huge success. Having been publicized well in advance and being held in a section where stamp collecting is taken seriously it drew quite a crowd of visitors during the two days it ran.

Participation of our Society and some of its members in this show may have resulted in, if anything, a bit of publicity. Four of our members participated, however, three of them received awards. Frank Kovarik received a First (Gold Cup) for his excellent showing of the 1920, 125, 500 and 1000h Masaryk issue consisting of essays, proofs, color trials and varieties. Fred Peters also received a First G.C., for his U.S. Commems complete and superb and John Velek received a Second Award for his showing of covers portraying the

Postal History of Czechoslovakia since the war. Yours truly showed his collection of Canada which received an Honorable Mention.

(Ye Ed.)

#### WHO'S GOT A DICTIONARY

Ye Editor has received word from Mrs. Vedra way up in Bay City, Michigan that she too possesses a Czech-English Dictionary and she wants to know what's "Special" about it. Now we're getting somewhere, we know of three people who possess such a dictionary. One is way up in

Canada, one way up in Michigan and another way down under in Australia. Any more? Incidentally Mrs. Vedra's dictionary is by Charles Jonas. Are the others by the same person?

**WANTED**                      Used                      Blocks  
9, 10, 14, 15, 20, 33, 38, 39, 53, 62, 63, 79, 118, 121, 147, 150 to 153, 166, 183, 184, 193, 196, 197, 198, 200, 201, 204, to 215, 218 to 256, E 3.

Will buy or exchange mint singles or blocks. Also have a few used blocks.

**C. J. PEARCE**  
2833 N.W. 13th St.  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

#### STAMPS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST IN RUSSIA

As has been previously stated the service of the field post was used advantageously by the civil population and this is the reason given for a surcharge, in addition to the "1920" overprint. This surcharge was applied in green in the following denominations: 2k, 3k, 5k, 10k, 25k, 35k, 50k, and 1-ruble, all on dark blue and brick red.

It is generally believed that these surcharged were applied in Praha.

The quantities issued of the different values as well as of stamps with but the overprint purported to be authentic cannot be accepted seriously because those who supplied the information had material interests at heart.

##### The Printing

The stamps were printed by a process which showed the central design (the Czech Lion) in relief (embossed). The stamps were printed in pairs, the central design (white lion in a red field) separately. The embossing of the design as well as the colors employed (brick red for center and blue for frame) were done in one operation and stamped out the stamps on paper already gummed, giving the appearance of perforations to the outside. It is therefore impossible to have a stamp of a different perforation gauge or two or more stamps se-tenant, but these must be classified as stamps "not so issued" or as unfinished products. Both the dies and the printing are the work of K. Kolman in Praha.

As has been noted, these stamps were printed in pairs and as each

die was prepared separately, there are two distinct dies or types, easily recognized:

Type I. Small handle on sword in left frame.

Type II. Large handle on sword in left frame.

There are other noticeable varieties between the two types, but these are most pronounced.

It is impossible to have a scarcity of one or the other type since they were printed in pairs.

Printing of the overprints and surcharges: The year date "1920" in black and values in green form two different types. These types, however, are minor and the difference lies only in the thickness of the numerals.

There are two distinct types in the 1-r surcharge:

Type I. The base of the "R" runs parallel with the base of the "I".

Type II. The base of the "R" is about 1¼ mm. higher than the base of the "I".

The shades of surcharges and overprints: Several shades, sometimes quite pronounced, are found in both the surcharge and the overprint. This is one of the reasons why we believe that these have been applied after the troops had returned from Siberia and therefore cannot be original printings but subsequent printings to enrich those in possession of the original dies.

##### Quantities issued

The distinguishing appearance of the stamps now found on the market are proof that several printings exist.

We have, however, no proof under what circumstances and when these printings took place. Those who are supplying the stamps will not give information and what information they do give must be accepted with consideration. These dies should have been returned to the Museum of National Independence as well as all other material connected with the conduct of the Czech Post in Siberia.

It is possible to recognize the first issue, from the stamps and on covers from Siberia. All other printings must be considered as private emissions, not issued authoritatively.

The originals are recognized by the very distinct relief of the lion and every individual picture of the design. The frame is in a bright, almost steely, blue and the oval in a bright brick to brown red; the paper is white, the gum unevenly coated, slightly yellow with small bubbles. The overprint "1920" is dull and the surcharged values dark or light green, without a trace of shine.

Shortly after the first printing a second larger printing followed. These stamps are recognized by a graying blue frame. The gum is applied more evenly the printing of "1920" is dull or shiny, the surcharged values are dull, bright, or olive green.

Aside from these two printings we cannot accept any other printing as authorized. As has been stated, together with the stamps sent to Russia, the dies went also, but it is highly improbable that further printings were made there. Stamps of this issue purported to be "Siberian printings" must be taken with sufficient reservation.

To the honor of the printers of the original printings be it said that no intentional errors occurred. Most errors are mere printing errors; inverted centers in the original or first printings are not known, but are found in the later printings. Inverted centers of the first printing occur, but the brick red color is absent. Inverted overprints or surcharges are (as far as we know) later printings and therefore must be classed as "unissued in that condition".

#### Counterfeits

The firm of Sekula\* in Lucerne has been marketing very good counterfeits of these stamps. The characteristics of them are:

Type I. After the "e" of Sibirske at

bottom a horizontal line and irregularities of letters in words as CesKoslov and SiBirske.

Type II. The supersign above "C" in "Ceskoslov" is plain whereas in the original it consists of two dots.

Other characteristics are noted in both types:

Paper—thin, soft, pliable.

Gum—even, colorless.

Lion—rough print, eye and name indistinct, curve and doubling of tail different.

Oval—bright brick, a distinct shade.

Counterfeits of overprints appeared on both originals and counterfeits. The figures of value are decidedly different. Many of these counterfeits have appeared on covers but all postmarks are counterfeits.

#### Cancellations

Many original covers without stamps had stamps added later and these were then finished off by an added part of postmark. Only a little care is needed to detect these.

\* Our information does not state which of the Sekula firms was the culprit. We are only translating and are not responsible for the statement of the author.

#### ENCOURAGE

YOUR

FRIENDS

TO

JOIN

THIS

CLUB

TODAY

The Czech Fighter-Squadron, the Czech Legion fight  
for democracy and for the rebirth of Czechoslovakia.

# CZECHOSLOVAKIA will RISE AGAIN

But there exist only very few of the rare stamps of the

## Historical Issue the Overprints on Austrian and Hungarian stamps

They furnish an impressive illustration of that unhappy country's origin and should not be missed in any bigger collection. Compared with other catalogues (Yvert, Michel etc.) the Scott quotations are low (see also the regular prices.)

### EASY PAYMENT BASED ON GOOD REFERENCES

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B18a	150.00	...		(150.00)	100.00			B64, 70	95.00	...		(95.00)	85.00		
B19a	60.00	....		(60.00)	50.00			B71, 72	21.00	...		(19.00)	14.00		
B21	15.00	....		(12.00)	8.00			B90	60.00	...		(40.00)	30.00		
B21a	15.00	....		(12.00)	8.00			B97	175.00	..		(175.00)	165.00		
B25	900.00	...		(900.00)	750.00			B103	80.00	...		(80.00)	75.00		
B26	100.00	....		(60.00)	50.00			B104	50.00	...		(50.00)	37.50		
B33	75.00	....		(50.00)	37.50			B105	50.00	...		(45.00)	40.00		
B37-39	90.00	Air Mail	..		65.00			B108	200.00	..		(190.00)	120.00		
B40	200.00	...		(185.00)	110.00			B110	20.00	...		(18.00)	12.50		
B45	20.00	....		(12.00)	9.00			B111	75.00	...		(45.00)	37.50		
B46	50.00	....		(50.00)	30.00			B112	35.00	...		(24.00)	17.50		
B54	15.00	....		(12.00)	9.00			B113	60.00	...		(50.00)	35.00		
B57	15.00	....		(12.00)	9.00			B114	25.00	...		(18.00)	12.50		
B59	5.00	....		(5.00)	3.50			B115	10.00	....		(8.00)	6.00		
B60	6.00	....		(6.00)	4.00			Also less expensive numbers available.							

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