

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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## EDITORIAL

We have mailed to patron members bound volumes of the 1943 CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST. In so doing we meet our last obligation of 1943—we are sure the volume, though small, will be appreciated by the recipients. We thank the patrons for their generosity; they have done much to help our struggling organization.

Next month marks the beginning of our fifth year as an organization and our Specialist gets a big birthday cake with four small candles. Let us look at the progress of those 4 years. As editor of your paper, we are, naturally, interested in the progress of our monthly publication. Vol. I—No. 1, was a modest 4 page pamphlet describing the purpose of the Society. The masthead was a plain type heading; right after the disgraceful Munich pact the name of the country was hyphenated so that our little publication would be accepted in the "second republic." In December 1939, a new masthead appeared; this continued until September 1942, when the present masthead was first used. The days of appeasement are gone, the day of reckoning is at hand; the hyphen has disappeared.

In the first volume appeared a translation dealing with the Field Posts of Czechoslovak and allied armies in Siberia; in the second volume an article on the Hradcany issues and another on the Transition Postmarks of 1918-1919, both written by Mr. Lowey started the publication in 1940 very successfully. It was then the Society lost its first editor and Mr. Kreischer was chosen to carry on. All went well until Pearl Harbor—Mr. Kreischer resigned his post; Mr. Horechny accepted temporarily; and just two years ago your present editor took over. As the war days stretched into weeks and months and years, your editor finds it harded to supply you with good material and on time. There are several articles in preparation and we assure you they are good. But, we must not hurry—when all is ready we'll make up for the 4 pages we've been rationing to you by doubling the quantity of material and at the same time retaining the standard adopted.

Members who have not yet paid their 1944 dues shall be removed from the roster and this is the last issue of the Specialist they receive. A word to the wise is sufficient.

—F. J. K.

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

President: Rudolph Secky, 1330 145th Pl., Whitestone, N. Y.  
Secretary: J. W. Lowey, 201 Marcy Place, New York 56, N. Y.  
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## PRAGA EXHIBITION SHEET



By official order #46/1938 dated June 21st, 1938 and published in the Bulletin of Posts and Telegraphs, an Exhibition Sheet shall be issued on June 26, 1938, consisting of two postage stamps: 50h blue and 1K red. Frame perforation 12½. Normal dimensions of the sheet 105x143mm. Above the stamp is printed the State Coat of Arms and underneath the legend "Praga 1938." The artistic designs of the stamps picture "Vysehrad" and "Hradcany"; this, as well as the entire arrangement of the sheet is the work of the academic artist J. C. Vondrous. Engraving is the work of K. Seizinger. Stamps are valid in postal service within and without the country to the end of 1938.

The printing of these sheets has been done from 9 plates of the 50h blue design and 7 plates of the 1K red design. It is for this reason that insignificant printing varieties occur, this has been one of the reasons why so many of the sheets were sold; specialists show not only the various small varieties but combinations of same. The paper is of an exceptionally good quality and the inks, especially the blue, are really superb. It seems the arrangement of the sheet has been decided with a view to use the old perforation machine used in producing the old Bratislava sheet.

In one of the future issues we shall endeavor to write up the Bratislava sheets—as well as the various overprints applied in this country and Canada to the Bratislava and Praga sheets for propaganda purposes.

## POLPEX 1944 HUGE SUCCESS

A mighty showing of the stamps of Poland and its plebiscites amid historic objects bearing on the stamps themselves thrilled a thousand visitors to Polpex 1944 on February 25 to 27 at the Polish Museum of Chicago. Members of the Polonus Philatelic Society showed their best in the finest manner befitting a national exhibition. Some of the exhibits were in wall cases, others were under plate glass table tops and still others were in frames. All exhibits were by invitation only. The presentation was dramatic alongside of relics and historic objects closely related to the stamps themselves and served to interest many a "philatelic widow" and her brood while papa concentrated on the stamps. The Museum Custodian, M. Haiman and Exhibition Directors, John Bobo and Roman Reinowski deserve much praise for their accomplishment.

The stamps of greatest interest to us were those shown by our fellow member Vincent Domanski of Philadelphia who showed proofs and varieties of Eastern Silesia. These interesting items of the plebiscite stamps were fully covered by a highly specialized collection which revealed scholarly research. An article on the stamps of Eastern Silesia written by Mr. Domanski appeared in the Czechoslovak Specialist in December 1942. The Polish show was well attended by collectors from near and far and leaves an indelible impression of another job well done by Polonus.

## NEW MEMBERS

- 146. Ant. Stavjanik, Batawar #37, Ont., Canada.
- 147. Irene Karches, 444 E. 81st St., New York City, N. Y.



Illustration of the Souvenir Poster Sheet issued in London, November 8th, 1943.

Through the courtesy of "Stamps," published by H. L. Lindquist in New York, we are able to illustrate this Souvenir Sheet. We must remind our members that these are NOT Czechoslovak Postage Stamps and will not be valid for postage in that country after the successful termination of the present conflict.

We have written a short description of this sheet in the January 1944, issue of the Czechoslovak Specialist. As yet, we do not know if these stamps have appeared on the market in the United States.

**Invest in U. S. WAR SAVINGS STAMPS and BONDS!**

## SALES AND EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

Please members sit down some evening and mount your duplicates and send me your books for circulation. I need books very much. During 1943 I could send out only 10 circuits with 98 books against 12 circuits during the previous year. This year I have mailed out 3 circuits already, which means we are a little ahead of schedule but am not sure if I can keep up this pace unless you send in more books. Czechoslovakia always sells, varieties, stamps on cover, special cancellations and entires, but we sell also very well airmails and Central Europe and since we have also a considerable number of general collectors practically the whole world, provided you send in better class stamps and forget about the penny items.

The total amount of the 10 circuits sent out during 1943 amounted to \$737.21 so far 6 of them came back and have been retired, their average sales percentage is 49 3/4 % which is a very good average.

Don't forget to speed up the circulation, nobody wants to make up new books, knowing it takes one year before they come back. During the last year we have cut down the circulation to 5-6 months, so if you send in books for circulation you can count on getting them back after half a year. Why not make up new books now?

If you owe me a small amount, please send it in, many small sums make a big one and you owe it to ME since I pay off as soon as the circuit is retired and balanced.

Wolfgang Fritzsche,  
Temporary address, 9 Britton St., Jersey City 6, N. J.

## GIVE YOUR BLOOD TO THE RED CROSS!

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1/8 Page .	.75	.65	.50
1/16 Page .	.50	.40	.30

Adlets (for members' wants, exchanges, sales, etc.): 1 cent per word. Stamps accepted in payment under 25 words; over 25 words, cash, money order, etc.

### VARIETY ON CZECH STAMP

A new variety of the Czechoslovakia stamp has been reported to us. On the 9th and 19th stamps the corner of the flag showing in red is markedly round instead of pointed. The "A" in "Czechoslovakia" is missing in this 19th stamp.

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