EDITORIAL

The traditional opening of another philatelic season is nearly upon us. Soon many of us will again turn part of our attention away from heat waves, vacations, beaches, bathing beauties and double headers to stamps. Yet there is no reason for entirely neglecting stamps in the midst of these and other attractions. An extremely hot day might better be spent in a cool room at home with stamps than at an overcrowded beach where the bathing beauties are far outnumbered by defunct banana skins and empty pop bottles. Baseball games are fine as long as your team wins, but what can you lose by catching up with some of that long-delayed stamp mounting? Vacations, of course, can have their philatelic aspect, by means of visits to collectors and dealers in other parts of the country, and even more so if one visits foreign lands. However you have spent the summer, we trust it was enjoyable.

We regret to inform you that our indispensable editor, good friend and valued raconteur and advisor, Frank Kovalik, was recently hit by a truck and is confined to a hospital, where it is expected he will remain until about the end of September. We understand he is expected to recover satisfactorily and is showing good progress at present. Although he is unable to write letters just now, having his right hand and wrist in a cast, he would undoubtedly be glad to hear from friends and correspondents at St. Anthony's Hospital, 2976 W. 19th St., Chicago 23.

It is a recognized law of physics that two objects cannot occupy the same space at the same time, but many of our truck drivers are willing to try this feat, even when the pedestrian—in this case Frank—has the right of way. With his usual diligence, he had much of the material for this issue prepared before the accident, so that a few of his friends are able to put this issue together with little difficulty. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

Our treasurer, George Kobylka, has moved to 1433 S. Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill. He states that the turmoil of moving now being past, he will be happy to receive our 1956 dues and give us credit for same just as soon as we realize that another year’s end is not too far in the future.

Mr. Kobylka, the publisher of the new Czechoslovakia album pages, has now completed those comprising Supplement #1, illustrated, providing spaces for new issues from Sept. 15, 1953 to May 15, 1954, and also including the airmails, postage dues and other special service issues from 1945 to present time. His advertisement appears in this issue.
PARADE OF NEW ISSUES

Sport Issue — 1954

The Ministry of Communications issued on 24th April, 1954, a new series of three postage stamps with the following motives:
Athletics, Kčs 0.30 value, brown, designed by Mario Strettí, painter-artist
Hiking, Kčs 0.80 value, green, designed by Mario Strettí, painter-artist
Swimming, Kčs 1.00, blue, designed by Jiří Běhounek, painter-artist

1. The Kčs 0.30 stamp with the motive Athletics shows two runners in the race and the badge "Připraven k práci a obraně vlasti" (Ready to work and to defend the native country). The hatch drawing is by Jindra Schmidt, engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied.
2. The Kčs 0.80 stamp propagating the organized Hiking shows a group of tourists in a mountain terrain with a wide outlook in the country. The motive is completed with the badge of Czechoslovak Tourists. The hatch drawing and engraving are by Jan Mrácek.
3. The 1.00 Kčs stamp shows a woman swimmer before the racing dive and the inscription "Každý občan plavec" (Every citizen a swimmer).

The stamps No. 1 and 3 were recess printed in sheets of 50, the stamp No. 2 was printed from flat plate in sheets of 10 copies. The values of Kčs 0.30 and Kčs 1.00 are in vertical form, the value of Kčs 0.80 in horizontal form, dimensions of the picture being 23x30 mm.

Validity for postage from 24th April, 1954.

The official First Day Cover was designed and engraved by Jiří Švengabír.

Regular Issue, Part II

The Ministry of Communications issued on May 15th, 1954, the second part of the emission of new current postage stamps with the following motives and denominations:
1. A soldier, the 50 hal. value, dark green, designed by Bohumil Matějček, engraved by Jiří Švengabír.
2. A women textile-worker, the 80 hal. value, dark brown. The author of the design is Zdeněk Adámek, the engraving is by Bedřich House.
3. A research scientist, the 1.20 Kč value, blue violet. The author of the design is the same as subject 2, the engraving by Jan Mráček.
4. An engine-driver, the 2.40 Kč value, blue. Design by professor Cyril Bouda, engraving by Bohdan Roule.
5. A chemist, the 3. Kč value, red, design by Mario Stretti, engraving by Bohdan Roule.

All the stamps were recess printed, subjects 1 and 3 by the Post Printing Office in Bratislava in sheets of 100 copies; subjects 4 and 5 by the Post Printing Office in Prague in sheets of 100 copies. Vertical form, dimension of the picture 19x22 mm.

Validity for postage from 15th May, 1954.
An official First Day Cover for this issue was not issued.

"The Year of Czech Music 1954"

The Czech music takes up an outstanding position in the culture of the world. This year's remarkable jubilee of the founders of Czech music: Bedřich Smetana, 130th anniversary of his birth, 70th anniversary of his death Antonín Dvořák, 50th anniversary of his death.
Leoš Janáček, the centenary of his birth were the motive for the arrangement of the YEAR OF CZECH MUSIC 1954.
The Ministry of Communications contributes to the propagation of this significant cultural event by issuing three commemorative postage stamps with the portraits of Bedřich Smetana, Antonín Dvořák and Leoš Janáček. The values and colors are the following:
1. 30 hal. value, Antonín Dvořák, violet
2. 40 hal. value Leoš Janáček, brick red
3. 60 hal. value Bedřich Smetana, blue.

The designs of all three stamps are the works by professor Karel Svolinský, their engravings are by Jindřich Schmidt.
All the stamps were recess-printed by the Post Printing Office in Prague, in vertical form, 23x38 mm in dimension, in sheets of 50 copies.
Validity for postage from 22nd May, 15th.
The official First Day cover is the work by professor Karel Svolinský, the engraving is by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

MEETINGS OF THE CHICAGO CHAPTER

September 19th—John Velek, 2228 Kimball, Chicago 47, Ill.
October 17th—George Kobylka, 1420 So. Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill.
November 21st—Paul Marusic, 1720 S. Clinton, Chicago 16, Ill.
NEW and RECENT ISSUES
(again) MINT only

553-59—35th Anniversary .. .15
560-61—1952 Red Cross .. .16
562-63—Aleš .......... .15
565-66—Peace ........... .21
Writers and Poets, 5 val. .. .35
Najedlí Birth, 2 val. .......... .17
Peace Congress, 2 val. .......... .17
5th Anniversary, 3 val. .......... .88
Václav, 2 val. .......... .12
Women’s Day, 2 val. .......... .11
Stalin Mourning, 1 val. .......... .06
Gottwald Mourning, 2 val. .......... .14
Gottwald Sheet .......... .20
Socialist, 1 val. .......... .06
Bicycle, 1 val. .......... .09
Socialist Construct, 3 val. .......... .17
May Day, 1953, 4 val. .......... .42
Agriculture, 2 val. .......... .26
New Currency
Music Festival .......... .50
Regular Issue, 6 val. .......... .80
Prague Castle .......... .75

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 2nd Republic
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coupon pages .......... 4.30
Glassine Interleaving Pages
100 for $1.00
Blank Pages .......... 4c each
First Day Cover Pages .......... 4c each
Four Corner Positions Pages 4c each

In Preparation—
BOHEMIA and MORABIA
(October-November, 1954)
SLOVAKIA
(Early 1955)
FIRST REPUBLIC—1918-1939
(During 1955)

NOTE THE CHANGE OF
ADDRESS

G. C. KOBYLKA
1433 South Cuyler Avenue
Berwyn, Illinois
March of the 80,000

Story of the Field Post of the Czechoslovak Army in Siberia

By W. L. Russell

(Reprinted from "Stamps" with permission of author and publisher)

Scott No. 195—Scene in St. Sophia Square, Kiev, Sept. 29, 1914

How the Army Started

When Austria declared war on Russia in 1914, whole regiments of Czechs and Slovaks (enlisted by Austria and Hungary) marched into Russia with flags flying and bands playing, and surrendered to the Russian Imperial Forces. They formed themselves into a Legion, and were prepared to fight alongside the Russians against Austria. Their starting point was Kiev, and there, on September 29, 1914, the first Czechoslovak colors were consecrated in the Cathedral Square. This event was commemorated twenty years later by a stamp which is now known as Scott's No. 195. It is illustrated with this article, and the design may be described as follows:

The scene is St. Sophia Square, Kiev, on September 29, 1914. The banner is held by standard-bearer Hejduk. At right of the banner is Lt. Col. Senetov, the commander of the Legion, and at the left is legiunnaire J. J. Svy, who later rose to the rank of Colonel. The ecclesiastical dignitaries are not known. Kissing the banner is 2nd Lieut. Vladimir Klicanda, who was later Staff Commander of the Legion. At his right is 2nd Lieut. Cecel, who eventually became commander in the Far East.

The Russian Army collapsed after the 1917 revolution, and then the Czechoslovaks decided to march across Russia and Siberia in order to get to France, there to fight beside the Allies and complete the liberation of their homeland. The number of Czechs and Slovaks who formed the Legion and took part in the Anabasis was 80,000 men.

Numerous rear-guard actions with advancing Germans had to be fought. In the first half of March 1918 the First Division of Czechs stood against two full divisions of Germans and held them at bay at Bachmac. This event was also commemorated twenty years later by a stamp, Scott's No. 243, and

Scott 243—Commemorating Czechs holding Germans at bay, Bachmac, Mar. 1918
which we are also illustrating.

Here is some of the background for this stamp:

Bakhmac is a small Russian town in the province of Tcherkisov. The Germans entered the Ukraine in March 1918, captured Kiev, and marched eastward. The 1st Div. of the Czech Legion engaged the Germans at Bakhmac, whilst the 2nd Div. was assembling train cars to take them eastwards. A battle lasting from March 7th to 13th ensued, the objectives being the Railway stations of Doc, Pliski, and Peski. The Germans were repulsed and the Czechoslovaks went East.

From then on it was a constant struggle through hostile territory. They fought Germans. They fought the Reds. But towards the end of 1918 they reached Vladivostok. Here, however, they were confronted with an Allied change of mind. The Supreme War Council, it seemed, had found an answer to a problem; how to reconstruct an Eastern Front. The Allies had never realized the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, and now decided to prevent a possible aid to Germany by the Bolsheviks. The only organized power in Siberia able to carry out the Allied plan was the Czechoslovak Legion. It was decided that the Legion should retrace its steps and prevent the repatriation of hundreds of thousands of German and Austrian Prisoners of War. These were starting to return to fight the Allies once more.

So the Czechs turned back, and, in a thin unwavering line, stretched from Vladivostok almost to the Ukraine, a distance of over 6,000 miles. On this line they fought until the Allied victory was an accomplished fact. Then they were ordered home, and once more started the trek to Vladivostok, where shipping was waiting to take them to Europe.

How the Fieldpost Started

During the eastward trek, while the Legion was in Chelyabinsk early in 1918, it was decided to organize a Fieldpost. The plan of organization was entrusted to Captain Anton Novotny, a former postal official, who had orders to present it to the Central Council of the Czechoslovak forces when it reached Omsk. This was done in August of 1918.

It should be understood that, by this time, the Czechoslovakia had seized the Siberian railway, and on one of the tracks at Chelyabinsk a small third class carriage was placed at Novotny’s disposal. There, with one typewriter, concise and simple postal regulations were drafted and typed so that there should be at least one copy for every FPO formed.

For Postal Railway Van Novotny was given ten freight cars, some of which had been used to carry flour, coal, lime, etc. All were dirty, all needed repairs of some kind, but it was all that was available and he made them serviceable. The mail at this time consisted mainly of newspapers published en route, booklets, pamphlets, and so on.

Only one Post Office (that of the National Council at Ekaterinburg) was housed in a building; all the rest were housed in railway cars, and equipment was very hard to obtain. Lamps were not available and the only lighting was from candles or flash lamps.

When the Fieldpost Started

At the beginning of September 1918 Novotny announced the opening of FPO’s in Chelyabinsk, Samara, Syzran (courier connections along the Volga to Simbirsk and Kazan), Ekaterinburg (courier connections to the Northern front and Chelyabinsk), Omsk, Krashnojarsk, and Irkutsk (courier connections to Chita). Nine or ten railroad mail cars ran every other day from Chelyabinsk through Samara and Syzran back to Chelyabinsk. To cover the round trip from Chelyabinsk, Syzran, and Irkutsk, including delays, took about
konopný papír  manila paper
koňská hlava  horse head
koňské dostišťy horse races
konsulát  consulate
kontrakt  indenture, contract
kontraktor  contractor
kontrola  control
kontrolní známka  control mark
kopí  spear
kopyto  last, hoof
kovář  head
Korea  Korea
korek  cork
korespondence  correspondence
kořistiti  to spoil
koruna  crown
korunování  coronation
korunovací  crowned
Korutany  Carinthia
košové  rhombus, lozenge
košové čerstvé  lozenge
krušek  perforation
Kostarika  Costa Rica
kostel  church
kotouč  roll
kov  anchor
koupaný  off paper
koupé  purchase
koupel ve vodě  water bath
koupití  to buy, to purchase
kousek  piece
kout  corner
kout nad klenbou  spandrel
kov  metal
kovář  blacksmith
kovové razítko  metal stamp
kovový  metallic
kovový lesk  metallic sheen
k prodeji  on sale
krabatý  rippled
krabice  box
krádež  theft
kraj  region, margin, border, province, edge
krajinka  landscape
krajní  extreme
krajní poloha  margin position
krajinský  provincial head
přednosta  provincial govt.
krajská správa  provincial administration
krajní známka  margin stamp
Králoň  Krakow
král  king
královský  royal
kramár  dealer
krámský stůl  counter
krásný  beautiful
krátký  short
krátký návod  instructions
krček  tender, brittle
krčmar  kreuzer
krejcovské  tailor's wheel
kolečko  quartz lamp
křemíčková lampa  design
kresba  crayon
kreslit  to draw
křesťan  Christian
Kréta  Crete
křída  chalk
křídlo  slate
křídlo červené  slate blue
křídlo modré  slate gray
křídlo modré černé  slate black
křídlo fialové  slate violet
křídlo žluté  yellow
křídlo dveří  door leaf
křídlo pokryté  coated with chalk
křídlový  chalky
křídlový papír  chalky paper
kříž  emergency crisis
křížová čára  curved line, crooked line
křivě  wrongfylly, indifferently
křivka  curve
křivolák  serpentine
krk  neck
kříž  across
křižáč  crossing
křižovatka  crosshatch
křižovaté linkovaní  crosshatched background
krokoříz  step
kromě  without, except
kromě českého  extraordinary
krom toho  beside, further
kronika  chronic
kroužek  ring
krovy  roof frame
kruh  circle, ring
kruhový  armor
kravá červená  blood red
Kuba  Cuba
kudrlníka  curl
kukurčově žlutý  corn yellow
kulíčka  small marble
kůň  horse
kupec  purser
kupecké skladiště  warehouse
kupon  coupon
ku prodejí  salable, for sale
kurs  currency
kurziva  italic
kurýr  courier
kus  piece
ku škodě pošty  to the detriment of P. O.
ku škodě  to the detriment
šbřatela  of collectors
kutašeti  to turn over, to roll

Kuwait  Kuwait
květ, květina  flower
květen  May
kvitance  receipt
kvitovatí  to receipt
kyj  club
kyj podobný  club shaped
Kyrenaika  Cyrenaica
kyselina  acid
kyselině citlivý  sensitive to acid
kyselině odporující  acid resistant
kyselinu  containing acid
obsaňující  box
kysna  shank
kýta  fawn color

labuť  swan
lacinější  of lower value, cheaper
laciný  cheap
lahodivý  delicate
lail  layman
lak  varnish
lakýrník  painter
láčeck ucha  ear lobe
lano  cable
laskavý  kind
Latinka  Roman character
Latinská Amerika  Latin America
lavírovaná  wash drawing
kresba  drawing
Leden  January
legítimní  legitimate
leheč  slightly, lightly
lehece  philatelic cancel
lehněk lozprávěně  slightly, thoughtlessly
lehněkomyšlně  lightly, thoughtlessly
lehký  light, slight
lem, hem  frame, seam, border
len  flax
lenošíti  to idle
lepenka  hinge, cardboard
lepidlo  glue, gum, paste
lepší  better
lepší řídka, stupěň  better grade
leptaný  etched
leptání  etching
leptati  to etch
lept v mědi  copper etching

les  forest
lej  gleam, sheen
lejší  gloss, brightness
lejší papír  glossy paper
lesknouti  to gleam
let  flight, wing
létači  flying
letecká pošta  air mail
leteďlo  airplane, plane
letecká služba  air service
letecký dopis  air letter
letiště  airfield
letoun  airplane
lev  lion
lev se sekyrkou  lion with hatchet
levandule  lavender
Levandulské  Leeward Isls.
Ostrovy  left
levý  left
levšté plámo  italics
lezeti  to recline,
lehátí  to lie down
lehátě  time
Libanon  Lebanon
Libérie  Liberia
Libie  Libia
libový  lean
lic  face
líčidlo  paint
Lichtenstein  Liechtenstein
lichý  empty
Litovská Republika  Peoples Republic
lidstvo, lidé  people
lila  lilac
linkovaný  ruled
linkovaný papír  ruled paper
lípa  Linden
lipán  cherry
lipová rataolest  Linden twigs
lipový květ  Linden flowers
lipový list  Linden leaf
lis  Press
lišící se  Different
lisovaný  Pressed
list  Sheet, leaf
listek  Foliage, ticket, card
latina  Latin
listonosč  Mail carrier
listopad  November
listový ozdoba  Foliation ornament
listovní kolek  Documentary stamp
list poštovních známek  Sheet of stamps
litáti  To fly
literka, litera  Type

Madagaskar  Madagascar
Maďarsko  Hungary
mahagoný  Mahogany
mailomat  Meter machine
maják  Lighthouse
majetek  Estate, possession
majetnost  Possession
Makao  Macao
makati  To touch
makulatura  Printers waste
Malé Asie  Asia Minor
Malajsko  Malay States
malba  Painting
malebný  Colorful
male přímo  Small letter, lower case
malířský  Tiny, trifling
malíř  Painter
málo  Meager
malovaný  Painted
Malta  Malta
Maltečský kříž  Maltese cross
Malteský  Maltese
malý  Small, little
Mančuria  Manchuria
Mančukuo  Manchukuo
mandát  Mandate
manželský  Legitimate, marital
mapa  Map
Mariánské  Marian
Marie Terezie  Marie Theresa
Marie Terezský tolar, Rakouský tolar, ražený v čase
Marie Terezie, plátýny okolo
Středočeského
moře a v Ha-

marka  Mark
Maroko  Morocco
Maršálský  Marshall Inla.
Ostrovy  Marshall Is.
mašina  Machine
maska  Mask
maso  Flesh
masný  Greasy
materská země  Mother country
matice, matrice  Matrix, hub, dice
matka s dítětem  Mother and child
Mauritius  Mauritius
maz  Paste
meč  Sword
mechánicky  Mechanically
měď  Copper
medailon  Medallion
měděná deska  Copper plate
měkký  Soft, tender
měnit se  To vary
menší odstín  Minor shade
měření  Measurement
měřítko  Scale

font  To pour, to mould
Litva  Lithuania
líněné plátno, prádlo  Ship
lodě  Navy ship cancel
lodní orázkování  Navy P. O.
lod’sto  Shipping, navy
los  Ticket, lot
losos  Salmon
lososové růžové  Salmon rose
lososové červené  Salmon red
lotusový květ  Lotus flower
Lotyšsko  Latvia
loupavé nálepky  Peelable hinges
listý  Fraudulent
Lublaň  Ljubljana
Lucembursko  Luxembourg
lučišník  Archer
lupa krychlová  Magnifying cube
lusak  Shell, peapod
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Czech Word</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
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<td>Merkur</td>
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<td>citizen</td>
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<td>mayor</td>
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<td>town</td>
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<td>gutter</td>
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<td>law of nations</td>
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<td>právo</td>
<td>force, control</td>
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<td>ministerstvo</td>
<td>ministry</td>
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<tr>
<td>místní</td>
<td>to signify, to mean</td>
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<td>míra</td>
<td>standard, measure-</td>
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<td>moderate</td>
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<td>place of issue</td>
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<tr>
<td>míti</td>
<td>to have</td>
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<tr>
<td>míti na race, v zásobě</td>
<td>to carry, to have on hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miliarda</td>
<td>billion</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>mince</td>
<td>coin</td>
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<tr>
<td>ministerstvo</td>
<td>ministry (of)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mladý pracovník</td>
<td>young worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mléko</td>
<td>milk</td>
</tr>
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<td>mlčeně modrý</td>
<td>milk blue</td>
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<tr>
<td>mluvka</td>
<td>talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mlýn, mlýnek</td>
<td>mill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mnohé</td>
<td>many</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mnoho</td>
<td>much</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mnohořát</td>
<td>many times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mnohonásobný</td>
<td>multiple</td>
</tr>
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<td>reproduction</td>
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<td>množství</td>
<td>mass, quantity</td>
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<tr>
<td>moc</td>
<td>force, control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moderní</td>
<td>modern</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>slate blue</td>
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<td>modře šedý</td>
<td>blue gray</td>
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<td>modře zelený</td>
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<tr>
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<td>bluish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modravé bílé</td>
<td>bluish white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modravé černé</td>
<td>bluish black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modravé fialový</td>
<td>bluish violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modravé křídlový</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>mohutný</td>
<td>bluish green</td>
</tr>
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<td>molařka</td>
<td>strong, big</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monako</td>
<td>transfer roll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongole</td>
<td>Monaco</td>
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<td>monogram</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montserrat</td>
<td>monogram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morava</td>
<td>Montserrat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moře</td>
<td>Moravia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moře větší</td>
<td>sea, ocean</td>
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<tr>
<td>mořežený</td>
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<td>madder carmin</td>
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<tr>
<td>purpurová</td>
<td>madder yellow</td>
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<td>mořská modř</td>
<td>sea green</td>
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<td>mořská zelez</td>
<td>brass</td>
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<td>mosaž</td>
<td>bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>most</td>
<td>motorcycle</td>
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<tr>
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<td>butterfly</td>
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<td>motýl</td>
<td>flour mill</td>
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<tr>
<td>močený mlýn</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mraž</td>
<td>likely, possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mramorový,</td>
<td>cloud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mramorovitý</td>
<td>marbled</td>
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The march of the Czechoslovak Army across Russia. The Anabasis started at Kiev and ended at Vladivostok, a distance of 8,400 miles. The main body of the army was joined at various places by other units. Behind Lake Baikal the forces split, one group going north over Blagoveschensk to Khabarovsk, the other via Harbin, both finally merging at Vladivostok.
sixteen days, and the distance covered, including courier service, was around 3,100 miles.

All first-class mail was handled in the simplest manner. Each trip of the ambulant posts was announced telegraphically, and military handlers were requested to meet the trains to accept mail for their depot and turn over the pick-up.

The first mailcars were soon too small, and the technical branch of the Legion placed at the Field Post's disposal ten freight cars, equipped according to Novotny's specifications, and these were coupled to the ordinary trains.

What Cancellations Were Used?

Part of the organization of any FPO is the cancellor, and the Czechoslovaks quickly got various ones made. They were mainly rubber, fifteen in number, and those that are genuine are shown here. Of those which were struck in metal, the most interesting is the “President Grant” cancellation. The ship “President Grant” was the thirty-fifth (and last) transport to take the legionnaires home, and bears the Roman numerals XXXV. Capt. Novotny came home on this ship.

Genuine F. P. O. Postmarks

Plan of Organization

Anton Novotny has made clear in the accompanying graph the organization of the Fieldpost. It is taken from his book “Official Instructions of the Fieldpost of the Czechoslovak and Allied Armies in Russia.”

In October 1918 the service was transferred to the General Staff under the command of General Klecanda. He substantiated the work of Novotny and under his leadership nothing seemed impossible. On October 18, 1918,
“Lion of Bohemia” 25 Kopeck stamp of the Czech Army Post in Siberia
Kleczka ordered that, at least once a month, a railroad mail car should make the trip to Vladivostok, and the first car left Chelyabinsk on October 24th. This first trip to Vladivostok and back (about 8,000 miles) became also the Field Post of the ALLIED ARMIES, and attained a world record (at that time) in postal transmission. The time of the trip there and back, 10 to 14 days, without changing cars or personnel, and the crew subsisting on tea, bread, and canned meat, was really spectacular.

Beginning November 1st, 1918, parcel post and money-order services were organized. Mail to the homeland was also arranged for and the first correspondence from the Army reached Czechoslovakia in the Spring of 1919. It went from Vladivostok in ships which also carried invalids, and the route was to Canada, thence across the Atlantic to Prague.

When the Stamps Were Issued

The thought that the Fieldpost should have its own stamps was a result of the first stamp used by the Czech forces in Russia. This was a Russian 10 kopeck stamp overprinted in Russian CESSKJA POSTA, and was issued at the request of the RUSSIAN FIELDPOST in Chelyabinsk, and with the approval of the postal authorities in Omsk. It was used to frank letters addressed to members of the Czechoslovak Army who, in 1918, did not have the privilege of free franking. Free franking was granted, however, almost immediately afterwards in response to a request to the Ministry of Posts in Omsk. Once the request was granted, the use of this 10 kopeck stamp became unnecessary and no more were overprinted. Only about 1000 copies of this stamp were issued. They are extremely rare, about 50 mint copies being known to have survived.

Thus was born the idea of stamps of their own, although they were NOT NECESSARY for the transmission of mails. Since the money obtained from their sale was transferred to the "Invalid Funds" of the Legion, the subsequent stamps may be termed Chariti stamps. At the same time, they had a high psychological value, for they emphasized the idea of independence.

(To be continued)

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510 Albert Hitchman, 27 Sharon St., Geneva, N. Y.
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512 Anthony W. Julis, 380 Elm St., San Carlos, Calif.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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Emil Zaludek to 6809 S. Francisco, Chicago 29, Ill.

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