

THE CZECHOSLOVAK Specialist



Official publication of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

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Editorial Board:

Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, Editor, P. O. Box 24, Bayside 61, N. Y.; W. Fritzsche, Canandaigua, N. Y.; Frank J. Kosik, Delavan, Wisc.; C. J. Pearce, Coalgate, Okla.; J. J. Verner, Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

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EDITORIAL

In the February issue we published a news release from Linn's regarding the certification of judges as proposed by the American Philatelic Society. We believe that the numerous comments, made by our member Wolfgang Fritzsche regarding judging, helped greatly in the making of a decision in reference to a system to be used for certification.

We are indeed very much pleased to report that among the first ones so certified is that same member. He is now certified to be one of the APS accredited judges to judge the following: Germany, Czechoslovakia, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Zeppelin, Catapult and Navy Mail. Congratulations to you, Wolfgang!

The article by John Velek on the Registration Practices in Use During the Period of the First Issue was of great interest to Mr. H. O. Pollak, a member of the Austria Philatelic Society, from whom we received some comments. We are reporting on them in full because they will add to the information in the article.

1. The difference between perforated and imperforate Austrian registry labels depends on the ownership of the post office, that is, whether it was a state-run office (ärarisches Postamt) or a private postmaster (hereditary) post office (Postmeisteramt). The former had perforated labels (after 1886), the latter imperforate (after 1889). Bilingual labels for the Czech area were introduced in 1897. Postmaster offices were finally ended in 1911 but many imperforate labels were still around for some years after that.

2. The handstamped R markings shown in figures 4 and 5, and other such markings, had an interesting history. They were widely used before 1886 when registry labels were introduced and then were saved and were distributed to the field post offices during WW I. I had not seen an example of their use in successor states previously, that I can recall, but other old postal markings did show up in 1918 and 1919.

3. Contrary to the impression which I think the article gives, the blank label of figure 12 is also an Austrian label. The type was introduced especially for registration on railroad (fahrende) post offices and is known, but rare, from the era of the Monarchy. It continued to be used in Austria for the same purpose into the 1930s and is known also, as used for emergency labels under various conditions as in the Burgenland.

The following members contributed to the library of the Society: Auermüller-Tribuna Handbook of Czechoslovakia 1938 (German); Billig's 1942 special-

ized catalogue; Stach's specialized catalogue of Czechoslovakia compiled by J. Lowey, 1941; Hirsch-Mrnak's Sberatelsky catalogue of 1948. C. J. Pearce—Michel Europe catalogue of 1962 and Wm. Reiner-Deutsch—a copy of Padělky.

PFC B. R. Beede, H/H Co., 24th Engr. Bn., APO, New York 09696 should like to know whether any of our members would be interested in the establishment of a study group to consider the German occupation of 1938-45, in all its aspects—censorship, Bohemia-Moravia, Sudetenland, etc., to include Feldpost, Dienstpost and so forth. Interested members kindly contact him.

In our January issue we printed an article on the Emergency Military Issues of the U. S. Army in Czechoslovakia 1945 by Keiler, translated from the January 1954 issue of Der Deutschland Sammler by member Beede. In the January 1952 issue of the Specialist a nearly identical article was published translated from the Information Gazette of Duisburg dated May 6, 1948, and written by the same author. We neglected to express our opinion as to the validity of that issue though it had crossed our mind. Moreover we forgot that such an article had already appeared in the Specialist and apologize to our membership for this error on our part.

A letter from Dr. Safarik informed us that he had disposed of all his Czechoslovak philatelic holdings and hence his interest in the Society had lapsed.

MORRIS F. BUKOFSKY

This member's passing was reported recently to our Mr. Schoenig. Mr. Bukofsky, #657, joined our Society in March 1959 and was a faithful collector of the stamps of our country of interest. The officers and members of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society extend their heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family.

RESIGNATIONS

#370 Dr. Henry Safarik
#660 Albert Hoch

FOR THE RECORD

Since the Czechoslovak Specialist is the official publication of our Society and as such all matters pertaining to Society affairs have a proper place in it and though last month we stated that we do not wish to take up much space with a detailed response to the latest outburst by some badly misguided members of our really fine Society, we have realized that an attack as personal as that contained in the circular letter addressed to our membership must not remain unanswered.

As the Air Force Academy officials have been attacked for upholding ethics, by a few parents who hold that interstudent loyalty should be considered higher than loyalty to the community, I have been attacked by name and the present leadership too, by those who are more loyal to each other than to the Society as a whole. They forget that it is the same loyalty of some law-breakers to each other that renders the community—and each of us—so liable to repeated attacks by criminals thus defended against the police, rather than innocent citizens shielded in their honest right to live safely.

We are herewith publishing the text in full of the circular letter, followed by pertinent comments.

8748 Rockefeller Avenue
Brookfield, Illinois
January 31, 1965

To The Members Of The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society:

The September 1964 issue of the Czechoslovak Specialist announced that the members in the Chicago area were no longer allowed to meet as a Branch of the Society. The reason given was a vague charge of a violation of Federal Regulations which were completely untrue. Subsequently, our immediate past president, Dr. James J. Matejka Jr., was expelled from the Society on equally trumped up charges.

Since it is unlikely that the full facts will be published in the SPECIALIST, the Chicago area members are taking this opportunity to inform the membership at large of these facts.

Since the founding of the Society in 1939 the Chicago members had worked hard for the benefit of Czech philately. We had put on exhibitions, published handbooks, contributed to the SPECIALIST as well as to the treasury of the Society. No one ever asked for any reward and only the welfare of the Society was uppermost in our minds. This same motive inspired us to translate the Handbook on Forgeries of Czechoslovakia and to sell it to the members at cost. The running of the translation serially in the Specialist was considered but because of the length of the book it was felt much of its value would be lost if it were to be prolonged this way. As soon as the book arrived from Czechoslovakia, about ten of our members (not all in Chicago) took sections for translation and it was in the hands of the membership at large within weeks.

For some unaccountable reason, Dr. William Reiner-Deutsch, our editor, considered the Forgeries Handbook his private domain. When he found that the Chicago members had translated the book without consulting him he prevailed upon the Council (most of whom he had put into office) to dissolve the Chicago Chapter and to expell Dr. Matejka. As a matter of fact, one of our Chicago members had seen the proof of the Forgeries Handbook when he had visited Prague in 1962 and had received permission from the principle author to translate the book. Before the translation was sold we also received permission to do so from the Czech Government, so no Federal Regulations were violated as was charged.

The Society Council has rewarded the Chicago members for 25 years of service by dissolving the Branch and expelling Dr. Matejka, who has done more for the Society than any other single member with the possible exception of our founder, Joseph Lowey or our Editor Emeritus, Frank Kovarik. It is incredible that our vindictive editor could weild this much power over our governing body.

The Chicago area members ask that every fair minded member write to the President of the Society, Mr. L. Horechny, RR 1, Box 78, Stockholm, N. J., and demand the reinstatement of Dr. Matejka and the opportunity for the Chicago Chapter to serve the Society as in the past.

Sincerely,

(signed) The Former Chicago Land Chapter of the Czechoslovak
Philatelic Society

F. J. Kovarik, J. Velek, G. Kobylka, J. Janecka, J. J. Matejka, Jr., M.D.

Forgery book copies were mailed to a number of people in the U. S. at about the same time, early in January 1964. We were quite aware that the book had been in preparation for years.

Upon receipt of a copy and after having studied it, we informed Frank J. Kovarik, early in February of our intention to have the text translated and

published serially in the Specialist as rapidly as practicable. He did not respond to this at all. The question arises why did Mr. Kovarik not inform us that he and his group were going ahead with a translation? Is it not of interest to know the reason behind his silence? He has never explained this! When on April 30, 1964, we read in the May 2 issue of Stamps the announcement of a translation and offer for its sale at the end of May at Compex, we immediately contacted a philatelic publisher for advice. We knew from DILIA's letter, dated April 15, 1964, that up to that time no one had been given permission by the Czechoslovak Agency to translate and sell such translation. We knew that the copyright agreement between the countries automatically made it illegal to act without permission by the appropriate agency. In spite of all this, a translation was offered for sale in that Stamps May 2, 1964 issue (see reproduction):

CZECHOSLOVAK STAMP FORGERY BOOK TRANSLATED

The Chicagoland Chapter of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society has announced that its members have completed the English translation of a book on Czechoslovak forgeries of the years 1918 to 1939, which has been recently released by Artia. This translation mimeographed, will be forthcoming at Compex on May 29th for the price of \$3.50 postpaid.

Since the translation will appear without the many excellent illustrations of the original book, it is well worth while to purchase the original book for the sum of \$5.00 postpaid as well. This book, excellently bound and printed on fine paper stock, will be an asset to any collector.

Orders for either the mimeographed translation at \$3.50, or the original book at \$5.00, or the package deal at \$8.00 should be sent with remittance to George Kobyłka, K-Line Publishing, Inc., 1433 S. Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402.

—STAMPS—May 2, 1964

We would not have been concerned about it had those members published an offer by only the commercial house and left out any connection with the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, which however was not the case. The advice we received was, to make those members of our Society stop doing what they were planning and what they had published an announcement of, because it was against the law. This was the case at the time the translation was offered for sale and when I called, asking for advice. Mr. Kovarik has stated in his letter of December 14, 1964, to the president, that he talked to the same publisher while in New York in October and that he had assured him that they had a legal right to translation and even to publication in book form. He further stated that he had been told of an assertion that they were breaking copyright laws, made by an elected officer of the Society (meaning us). Well, the chronological order must be taken into consideration. When we phoned on April 30, 1964, the Chicago members did not have any kind of legal right because permission to them and to us also, is dated June 3, 1964!!!! (See reproduction):

CZECHOSLOVAK THEATRICAL AND LITERARY AGENCY

DILIA

June 3, 1964

Dr. W. Reiner-Deutsch
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society
Box 24
Bayside, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Reiner-Deutsch:

Thanks for your letter of April 23 concerning "Padělky Československých Poštovních Známeček," and an apology for our delay in answering.

In the meantime we have also received a request from your Chicagoland

Chapter c/o K-Line Publishing, Inc., Berwyn, Ill. They are distributing the Czech edition of the work and would like to publish an English version too, at production cost. Therefore we had to discuss the both proposals with the authors.

We are glad to inform you now that a one-time licence to publish the English version of the work serially in "Czechoslovak Specialist" is granted to you, free of charge, provided that the issues will be sold non-profitably and that due acknowledgement is given in each for the copyright.

Concomitantly a free one-time, non-exclusive licence is rendered to Messrs K-Line Publishing, Inc. We rather mention it to have you informed about this parallel action.

We hope you will find the above terms quite satisfactory. Please sign then two copies of this letter and return them to us as soon as convenient.

Sincerely yours,

Signature

Just by twisting and turning facts it seemed so easy to Mr. Kovarik to malign an innocent person!

The January 1965 philatelic press brought us the news of the formation of a new philatelic society, Chicagoland Czechoslovak Philatelic Society. Mr. Kovarik placed his name under those notices. What do those members want? A new Society with a name which could be easily mistaken for our own Society, for the confusion of the public? Then suddenly they want members to write to "demand" that the "Chicago Chapter be given the opportunity to serve the Society as in the past." What hypocrisy!

Since the return address on the circular letter is that of Frank J. Kovarik, we wish to remark that this same gentleman, when just moderately criticized by one of our members who has since passed away, responded in a more spitefully and unsympathetically "vindictive" manner than any person we have ever had any dealings with. He stated in his editorial in the Specialist that this member should go back to that institution where he had spent some time. The member had suffered a nervous breakdown once and had to be hospitalized in a mental institution. The circular letter should be an eye-opener to any one who is willing to judge the situation impartially. To have the arrogance to state that we put into office most of the members of the Council is an insult to the intelligence of our members who voted in the 1963 election. Members just bear in mind that 88 of you voted! The Chicago members did much for the Society but so did and do all of us, without constant boasting!

Mr. John Velek, who had been appointed to our Editorial Board upon our request in January 1962, responded, upon our inquiry whether he would be willing to translate part of Padělky, that he could not do it "due to other commitments." Members must carefully read this: John Velek, a fine student of Hradčany, told us that he could not help us in that work but did not inform us that he had been actually busy doing exactly that. Why was this done in such a strange fashion? Was this an act for the "good of the Society"?

George Kobylka resigned from membership in 1962 but his name also appears on the circular letter to all the members of the Society to which he does not belong. Mr. Kobylka had resigned in 1962 because the incoming treasurer insisted that he be given all the financial records of Mr. Kobylka who had held that office for ten years. The present treasurer has never received any records of the financial transactions of the outgoing treasurer, Mr. Kobylka! Mr. Stein received only some cards on which names were listed of members who had paid their dues for 1962. I ask the membership to consider why those records were not handed over?? And now he has the effrontery to address himself to the members of a Society to which he does not even belong. If Mr.

George Kobyłka were to send us a "Letter To The Editor," explaining why he had refused to hand over to the incoming treasurer in 1962 all the records of his financial transactions as treasurer of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, we would gladly publish it! We should all very much like to be informed about this very important matter. Of course, in case we should receive no response from that gentleman, our membership will have to draw the appropriate conclusions.

We cannot understand Mr. J. J. Janečka at all. We have had no particular dealings with him.

It is indeed regrettable that Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr., saw fit to have his expulsion from the Society published, via that memorable circular letter. We do not know what he hoped to gain by it but he is now forcing us to publish some details on the subject which we had tried to spare him and our members. The charges, his response to each and the additional facts about them were studied by the Council members. Of the eleven Council members, four did not vote, one voted against dropping him and six voted in favor of it. If six Council members reluctantly came to the conclusion that the serious charges against him of actions damaging to the Society, had been substantiated, how "trumped-up" could they have been? The ridiculous appeal in that circular letter for members to "demand" his reinstatement is impossible to take seriously, since according to the By-Laws of our Society any person dropped from membership shall be deemed unacceptable for readmission. The matter of Dr. Matejka came to a head due to a major philatelic society's secretary mailing to our secretary an official copy of a document exposing the very questionable methods employed by said former member against the interests of the national Society.

It was essential to take up so much space for all this in order to clear away the ugly untruths spread by the above individuals.

SS FELDPPOST LABELS FROM BOHEMIA-MORAVIA

by Benjamin R. Beede

According to G. Hoffmann-Giesecke's "Deutsche Feldpost 1939-1945," a set of four labels, with denominations of 5, 10, 15 and 20 Pfennigs, were issued by an SS unit stationed in Bohemia-Moravia. These "stamps" apparently did not have any pictorial design, simply the unit number of this force, 30433. As yet I have not been able to locate the name of this unit. This number was assigned to a security unit on the Eastern Front, but this does indicate the designation of the force while in the Protectorate. Presumably, the labels were produced in 1940 or 1941, and were used to identify letters as Feldpost mail and show the Feldpost unit number as a return address. Such labels could be used in lieu of handwritten or typed notations. Can any member of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society tell us anything more about the set?

Just received shipment of Forgery Book, cost \$3.96 postpaid

TRAVELING?

CZECHOSLOVAKIA SPECIALIST:

František Ales

ALESH TRAVEL AGENCY, 1371 First Ave., New York 21
near 74th Street — Phone LE 5-4944

Authorized Čedok (Official Travel Office Prague) representative.
Visas, Hotel Vouchers, Money transfers Tuzex, Gift Certificates, Guidebooks and maps of ČSSR. Dictionaries, Translations, Immigration Affairs, Affidavits for Visitors.

"Travel with the man who was born there".

Padělky Československých Poštovních Známek

1918-1939

Eng. Jan Karásek, Zdeněk Kvasnička, Břetislav Paulíček

Translated by Jaroslav J. Verner

By permission of the Czechoslovak Theatrical and Literary Agency
Dilia, dated June 3, 1964

Continued

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The fine detail is poorly marked on the dome of St. Nicholas cathedral.
2. The clock on the steeple and the round window are not distinguishable.
3. The roof of St. Vitus cathedral is straight.
4. In the right and left corners the linden leaves are irregularly dotted.
5. The narrow regular triangular ornament is missing (it seems a mere vestige).
6. The tip of the spire is shorter and not broken.
7. The hearts and doves contain irregular lines with coarse shading.

Page 30

10 h (se-tenant gutter) red
(catalog numbers listed)

Validity: Dec. 18, 1918 to April 30, 1921

White paper at times yellowish of various thicknesses with yellowish gum.
The paper is white and the color of stamp carmine under ultraviolet light.
Typography — Type of engraving: A — Size of design: 26.3x22.4 mm.

Illustration to the left

Genuine

1. Distance between stamps on the gutter is 33.8 mm.
2. The spires of both cathedrals near the dome are pointed.
3. The sun rays are dotted.
4. The clouds are indicated by delicate lines.

Page 31

Counterfeit A (to defraud collector)

10 h se-tenant gutter, red

The counterfeit has the control number 6 under the upper stamp. An important indicator of this counterfeit is the grayish paper and the dull red color. The paper is grayish brown and the color of stamp rose red under ultraviolet light.

Typography — Type of engraving: A — Size of design: 26.5x22.7 mm.

Illustration to the left

Counterfeit

1. Distance between stamps on the gutter is 43.5 mm.
2. Spires of both cathedrals are blunt.
3. Sun is engraved as a solid line.
4. The clouds are indicated by thicker lines.

Page 32

100 h brown

Validity: January 14, 1919, to April 30, 1921

(catalog numbers listed)

Imperforate

The stamp of this denomination was never officially perforated.

Usually white paper, at times slightly yellowish of various thicknesses with bright color of the stamp, and white to brownish gum.

Typography — Type of engraving: B — Size of design: 26.5x22.6 mm.

Illustration**Genuine**

1. The dome of St. Nicholas cathedral does not have a spire.
2. To the left of the sun there is one large ray.
3. The steeple of St. Vitus cathedral is not fully outlined.
4. The Linden leaves have a white border.
5. On the left the linden branch is divided irregularly into three stems.
6. The ornament takes the shape of a regular spiral curve.

Page 33

Counterfeit (to defraud the post office)

100 h brown

First found in bundle and clipping lots in 1934 because it always carried the cancellation of Vejprty (Weipert) and hence received the designation "Vejprtsky counterfeit." At that time Austrian bilingual cancellations were used (Czechoslovak and German). This counterfeit was probably produced in 1919 as were the 200 h and 300 h denominations. The counterfeiter and distributor were never identified. This counterfeit was used only to defraud the post office. Usually yellowish or grayish paper with light colored stamp.

Lithography — Type of engraving: B — Size of design: 25.5x21.8 mm.

Illustration**Counterfeit**

1. The dome of St. Nicholas cathedral has a small spire.
2. To the left of the sun the ray is missing.
3. The steeple of St. Vitus cathedral is completely colored.
4. The linden leaves do not have a white border.
5. On the left the linden branch is divided into two stems.
6. The ornament takes the shape of an irregular spiral curve.

Page 34200 h ultramarine—a. violet blue
(catalog numbers listed)

Validity: January 14, 1919 to April 30, 1921

Imperforate

Comb perforation 13¼x13½

Usually white paper at times slightly yellowish of various thicknesses.

Ultramarine to violet color in various shades. The gum is white or grayish.

Typography — Type of engraving: B — Size of design: 26.5x22.6 mm.

Illustration**Genuine**

1. There is no spire on the dome of St. Nicholas cathedral.
2. The sun has only one ray.
3. The steeple of St. Vitus cathedral is not completely lined.
4. The linden leaves have a white border.

5. On the left the linden branch is irregularly divided into three stems.
6. The ornament takes the shape of a regular spiral curve.
7. The number 2 does not touch the oval and its base is horizontal.
8. There is a gap between the numbers 2 and 0.

Page 35

Counterfeit A (to defraud the post office)

200 h ultramarine

First discovered in the same way as the 100 h stamp in 1934 among clipping and bundle lots. Usually yellowish or grayish paper with stamp of light color.

Lithography — Type of engraving: B — Size of design: 25.5x21.8 mm.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The dome of St. Nicholas cathedral has a small spire.
2. Over the sun the ray is absent.
3. The steeple of St. Vitus cathedral is completely colored.
4. The linden leaves are without the white border.
5. On the left the linden branch divides into only two stems.
6. The ornament takes the shape of an irregular spiral curve.
7. The number 2 touches the denomination tablet and does not have a horizontal base.
8. Numbers 2 and 0 are joined.

Page 36

Counterfeit B (to defraud collector)

200 h ultramarine

This counterfeit was first discovered along with the 500 h and 1000 h denominations bearing the first airmail overprints issued as airmail stamps of 1920 as well as the S. O. 1920 overprints. The counterfeit is done fairly well. Stereotype plates produced by photo-chemical process and printing in blocks of eight. Each individual counterfeit appears to have a slightly different engraving. White to yellowish paper of various thicknesses with yellowish gum.

Typography — Type of engraving: B — Size of design: 26.5x22.6 mm.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The dome of St. Nicholas cathedral has no spire.
2. The sun has a single main ray.
3. The steeple of St. Vitus cathedral is not fully lined.
4. The linden leaves have white borders.
5. On the left the linden branch is divided into three irregular stems.
6. The ornament takes the shape of a regular spiral curve.
7. The number 2 does not touch the oval and its base is horizontal.
8. There is a gap between the numbers 2 and 0.
9. There are three dark spots on the main spire.
10. On the dome of St. Nicholas cathedral the windows appear like irregular spots.
11. The name Mucha is easy to read.

Page 37

The 200 h counterfeit in a block of eight is illustrated.

Page 38

300 h gray green
(catalog numbers listed)

Validity: April 22, 1919 to April 30, 1921

Imperforate

White paper, at times yellowish or grayish of various thicknesses. Color of stamp is of various shades: from light to blue green and the gum is either white or grayish. Stamps of this denomination were not officially perforated. Typography — Type of engraving: D — Size of design: 26.5x22.6 mm.

Illustration

Genuine

1. The tip of the steeple of St. Vitus cathedral does not reach the line of the arch.
2. The accent over the letter A in SLOVENSKÁ is to the right of it.
3. In the right and the left frames the circles consist of thin lines.
4. The white frame line around the stamp and the wavy lines at right and left are formed by thin lines.

Page 39

Counterfeit (to defraud the post office)

300 h olive green

The counterfeit of the 300 h stamp has been known unused since 1920. However, used copies were not discovered until 1934 as was true of the 100 h and 200 h denominations. This confirms that the counterfeit was used in the mails during 1919-1921. The counterfeits were discovered in bundle lots all bearing cancellation of Vejprty post office. Of the three denominations, (100 h, 200 h, 300 h) this counterfeit was the most successful one. Paper is grayish and color of stamp is pale.

Lithography — Type of engraving: D — Size of design: 25.6x21.8 mm.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The steeple of St. Vitus cathedral is elongated, reaching the line of the arch.
2. The accent on the A in SLOVENSKÁ is absent.
3. In the right and left frames the two circles are formed by thicker lines.
4. The white frame line and the wavy lines at right and left are formed by thicker lines.

Page 40

500 h brown
(catalog numbers listed)

Validity: August 9, 1919 to April 30, 1921

Imperforate

Paper is white, at times slightly yellowish of various thicknesses. The paper appears white and the stamp brown under ultraviolet light. Stamps of this denomination were never officially perforated.

Typography — Type of engraving: E — Size of design: 26.6x22.3 mm.

Editor's note: We urge all of you to acquire a copy of the outstanding book. Available for \$3.96 at the sources advertising in this issue.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1964

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dues	\$ 1,138.90	Print. "Spec." Jan.-Dec. 64	\$ 914.75
Gifts	17.00	Postage "Specialist"	193.97
Advertisements	231.15	Dues APS, SPA, Federation	15.00
Sale of Books, Spec.	147.85	Anniv. Dinner, Convention,	
Anniv. Dinner, Convention	198.50	Anniv. Pins, Show Awards	390.37
Circuit Commission	22.26	Binding "Specialists" 1963	62.50
Commission Hradčany	2.25	Addressograph Plates	30.58
Interest of Savings Account	24.76	Postage	48.04
		Misc. (book, freight)	7.00
	<u>\$1,782.67</u>		<u>\$1,677.21</u>
Transfer from 1963	\$ 936.58		
Income in 1964	1,782.67		
			<u>\$2,719.25</u>
Expense in 1964	1,677.21		
			<u>\$1,042.04**</u>
IN TREASURY			
**In checking account	\$ 485.11		
In savings account	556.93		
			<u>\$1,042.04</u>

This is the report for the entire year of 1964.

As of this date there are absolutely no obligations outstanding.

During 1964 we had 283 paid up members.

As of this date 147 members paid for 1965.

This report will be verified and if found correct, published.

Any inquiries will be gladly answered.

Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Dec. 31, 1964

Joseph Stein, Treasurer

The detailed report was found to be in agreement with the summary of transactions and balances as of December 31, 1964.

P. L. Flynn

Dr. F. J. Arnold

Auditors

February 19, 1965

SLOVAK LEGION MAIL, WORLD WAR II

by Benjamin R. Beede

In a recent issue of the SPECIALIST I discussed a postal agreement concluded between Germany and Slovakia in 1940 which permitted Feldpost mail to be sent to and from Slovakia without the imposition of any postal charges. Another agreement, made early in 1943, has come to my attention, and its provisions may be of interest to the membership. Cards and letters up to 100 grams and packages up to 2000 grams were permitted free. Packages of up to 15 Kilograms were allowed if they contained only the personal effects of casualties. All packages had to have German parcel admission stamps on them, along with a statement of the contents and a certificate by an officer that the package and its contents had been examined. All mail to and from SS volunteers was processed through a branch postoffice at Pressburg and bore the note "SS" and "Ueber SS-Zweigfeldpostamt" on each item. These notes, however, were supposed to be obliterated at the SS postoffice.

THE CZECHOSLOVAKS IN THE UNITED STATES

Translated from Filatelie by G. R. Skopecek

During and after the stormy 1848, many Czechoslovaks began to leave their country for other lands, principally for the United States. Some of them were political refugees, others artisans and farmers. The farmers came mostly from the regions of Tabor and Hana. The emigrants spread all over the United States, especially the farmers, while the artisans were drawn to the cities to engage in various trades and businesses. It is estimated that at present there are about one and a quarter million Czechoslovaks in the United States. The largest concentration of them is on the Chicago West Side in the quarter called Pilsen, with its own postoffice.

Prominent among the early emigrees after the White Mountain (1649) is Augustin Heřman of Praha (1661). He settled in Pennsylvania, mapped that part of the State and developed land holdings with names St. Augustin Manor, Little Bohemia, Bohemian Manor. The Great Bohemian River and the Little Bohemian River were named by him in that part of Pennsylvania.

Before World War II there were about forty thousand Czechoslovaks in New York. Prominent among them was B. Filip, known as the "Bohemian merchant prince." He died in Phillipsburg, near New York, a town founded by him. A political refugee of distinction was Karel Jonáš, one time the vice-governor of Wisconsin, author of the first authoritative Czech-English grammar and dictionary. He died in Krefeld, Germany, where he was the U. S. Consul-General. Antonín Čermák, an American born Czech, was the mayor of Chicago at the time he was gunned down in Florida while with the President, F. D. Roosevelt.

As living conditions in Czechoslovakia improved, the emigration to the United States dwindled and with the loss of new blood, the Czechoslovaks are being absorbed at a fast rate. However, the Czechoslovaks are leaving behind over 200 names of cities, towns and settlements, of which about forty have or had postoffices, as reminders of towns and villages in their old country. Some of these places were named after prominent personalities, such as Korbel, Calif., Masaryktown, Fla., Kellersville, Wis.

Names of towns in the United States: Czechoslovak: Beroun, Minn.; Karlín, Mich.; Kolín, La.; Kolín, Mont.; Libsa, La.; Lipan, Tex.; Malín, Ore.; Protivín, Iowa; Písek, N. Dak.; Rosánky, Texas; Slovan, Pa.; Tábot, Iowa; Tábor, So. Dak.; Tábor, Tex.; Touhy, Nebr.; Veslí, Minn.; Volín, S. Dakota, New Hradec, N. Dakota.

Anglicized: Bohemia, N. Y.; Konetz, Wis.; Moravia, Idaho; Moravia, N. Y.; Moravia, Iowa; Moravian Falls, N. C.; Prague, Nebr.; Prague, Okla.; New Prague, Minn.; Bruno (Brno), Nebr.

Germanized: Austerlitz, N. Y.; Austerlitz, Ky.; Carlsbad, Calif.; Carlsbad, Ky.; Carlsbad, N. Mex.; Carlsbad, Texas; Lititz, Pa.; Nechnitz, Texas; Olmitz, Kans.; Pilsen, Kans.

Bethlehem and Nazareth, Pa., were established by the Czech Evangelical emigrees. As time goes on, new towns are springing up—old are disappearing. Attrition is responsible for discontinuance of postal service in many of the towns (Tabor, Texas, 1926, Touhy, Neb., 1952, Bruno, Neb. 1949, Moravia, Ida., 1962, Austerlitz Ky. 1955). Kolin, Mont., with a population of 9 still has a post office and a RR station, serving the surrounding agricultural country. In the past there was a sawmill, several business houses and a school—but the new generations gradually moved away to large cities.

Czechoslovak names appear also on precancelled stamps. There is only one Bureau precancel, 1c green 1922 New Prague, Minn. Locally precancelled stamps are:

California: Carlsbad; Iowa: Tabor, Moravia; Kansas: Olmitz; Minnesota: New Prague; Nebraska: Bruna, Touhy; New York: Bohemia, Moravia; New Mexico: Carlsbad; North Dakota: Pisek, New Hradec; Wisc.: Kellnersville; Oklahoma: Prague; Oregon: Malin; Pennsylvania: Lititz, Slovan.

Many Czechoslovaks dissatisfied with the living and political conditions in the old Austria-Hungary emigrated not only to the United States but other countries in the Western Hemisphere where they established new settlements, many with names reminding them of their native land. Their progeny participated in the social and political activities of the new country. (Viz: Brazil, Chile.)

—V. Novák

Translator's Remark: The author omitted Lidice.

"Voskhod" Flight On Czech Sheet

Czechoslovakia came out November 12 with a 3 Kcs. steel blue and carmine violet souvenir sheet for the Soviet space ship "Voskhod" (Sunrise). This issue had not previously been announced as a part of the original stamp program for 1964. A commemorative duo—30 hellers and 60h.—was released November 16 for the history and current development of Czechoslovak engineering.



The Voskhod sheet was designed by the creator of this year's set of stamps portraying Russian and United States cosmonauts, Jaroslav Lukavsky. The design in the lower left-hand corner shows the three cosmonauts—Boris Yegorov, Vladimir Komarov and Konstantin Feoktistov—the date of launching "12.X.1964", the name Voskhod, and the number of orbits.

The central motif depicts from the lower right-hand corner to the upper left a Soviet cosmic rocket at the moment of separation from its first stage.

An ellipse surrounds the design symbolizing cosmic dust. Engraving for the issue was done by Jindra Schmidt and Jaroslav Goldschmied. The sheet is perforated and was two-color rotary steel press printed by the Ministry of Communications Printing House in Prague.



The colors and designs of the engineering set are 30h. reddish brown, 150th anniversary of the first Brno Engineering Works, and 60h. green and orange,

a Diesel-electric shunting locomotive, product of Czechoslovakia's second largest engineering enterprise CKD of Prague.



Both stamps were designed by Frantisek Hudecek and engraved by Jindra Schmidt. They were printed by the Ministry of Communications Printing House of Prague, the first by rotary steel press, the second by a combination of rotary steel press and gravure.

The 30h. bears the Czech text "From steam engine to atomic power plant" and illustrates the history of the 150-year-old First Brno Engineering Works.

The 60h. marks the achievements of CKD Prague. The original plant started production of mining and traction machinery, power and electrical engineering equipment in 1871; later complete engineering, chemical and food processing plants were added to the list.

The enterprise, like the first Brno Works, was largely destroyed at the very end of the war, and had to be rebuilt. The locomotive shown on the stamp is one of its present products, which also include powerful Diesel engines, turbo-compressors, and high-voltage electrical engineering equipment.

A set of six commemorative stamps depicting birds also appeared November 16, according to J. P. Krouman, V lesicku 8, Prague 5, Smichov, Czechoslovakia.

SIDECOMB PERFORATIONS ON DOVE 1920 STAMPS

Translated from Filatelie by G. R. Skopecek

Some time ago, a few used DOVE stamps were submitted for my opinion of retouches on the 45th and 100th stamp in a pane. Among these used stamps were two 45th and one 100th stamp with retouches, sidecomb perforated. Without any doubt this was a "philatelic" find, because this perforation is rather rare.

The stamp in Fig. 1 (45th retouched stamp) is sidecomb perforated, a manner easily determined. A regular comb perforated stamp has 15 teeth across the top. The stamp in Fig. 1 has only 14 teeth. That means that on the next stroke of the perforator it was a little too close to the previous one which narrowed the stamp. This is not possible with the regular comb, because a stamp perforated with regular comb, working from top to the bottom of the sheet cuts 15 teeth with every stroke. The distance between the horizontal pins is constant producing 15 teeth. Height of the stamp may change because of some mechanical defect of the perforator. With the sidecomb it is just the opposite, the height of the stamp is constant, but the width is changeable. These observations permit quick determination of perforations. The question of the 5h (45th) violet DOVE stamp (Fig. 2) was more complicated. After considerable scrutiny of enlarged photos I came to the conclusion that this stamp was also sidecomb perforated judging from the peculiar grouping of holes in the right upper and lower corners. (Fig. 3-4). The position of the last upper and lower hole is shifted slightly down in comparison with the other horizontal holes. This reasoning may be objected to as possible pins out of line, which is a good argument, if there was not another substantiation. When a



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 5

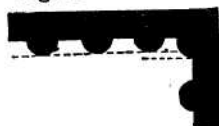


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

horizontal line is drawn through any pair of vertical holes they should be practically in a straight horizontal line. However, in this case the tendency is for the holes on the right side to be appreciably lower. It means that any shift of the corner holes was not accidental, but by the perforator head striking slightly lower than on the previous stroke. Another proof is that the vertical centerline of the STAMP, not of the design, intersects the 8th hole top and bottom, so the distance of holes from the centerline is same on both sides. On our stamp the distance from the centerline to the holes on the left side is greater than on the right side, showing that the perforator struck too close to the previous stroke and shortened the horizontal distance. Another ground for our decision is the fact that the 9th hole down is a little to the left and same distance on both sides.

The greatest and rather rarest is the retouch on the 100th stamp of 5h DOVE violet. I agree with Eng. Karásek that this sidecomb perforated stamp was shown in the International Stamp Exposition PRAGA in 1962, (bottom strip with the counter), and that it is unique.

The third submitted stamp, was the 100th stamp, 5h violet sidecomb perforated was instantly recognizable. The 15th tooth was noticeably shortened and the whole stamp was narrower. (Fig. 5).

The foregoing facts show that the work of a specialist has no end.

—František Šrámek

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