

THE CZECHOSLOVAK Specialist

Official publication of the



Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

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No. 265

EDITORIAL

We believe this is the first time that we are encountering difficulties in the writing of our Editorial. The problem stems from the fact that so many extremely interesting matters on which we wish to report transpired late in May during SIPEX in Washington as well as after that event. It is exciting enough to attend an international show and most definitely it is quite interesting to be one of the judges of the Postal History Society of the Americas with many members participating, representing close to four hundred frames. Most certainly it was thrilling to see the beautiful display of Czechoslovak material from Czechoslovakia and from the USA. Members Kvasnička and Herout were both awarded Vermeil Medals for their entries, member Kracik the bronze silver medal and from the USA member Velek the silver medal. Member Pearce received a Diploma. There was another exhibit from Czechoslovakia by Jacubec whose entry was given a bronze silver medal. We shall most likely inadvertently omit many important matters pertaining to SIPEX and wish to apologize here to every member whose contribution to the success of the exhibition, dinner and convention is not mentioned.

We have received numerous letters in support of member Janecka's efforts regarding issuance of a commemorative on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia. We have letters by members offering their services to this important undertaking and we have notified member Janecka about it all. We understand that in early fall the various organizations interested in this matter will meet and will formulate their actions in more definite detail.

Since we reached Washington on May 20th, we were in the position to meet Zdeněk Prokop, head of the philatelic section of ARTIA shortly after the booth was set up. The young lady who was working with Mr. Prokop told us that her husband used to live in Žižkov the one-time residence of your editor. We also met Engineer Ladislav Dvořáček, Delegate to the FIP from Czechoslovakia, president of the Federation of Czechoslovak Philatelists, the day after he reached Washington. It was truly a fine opportunity to have some talks with Mr. Dvořáček on numerous philatelic matters. We were very pleased to receive his assurance that we shall have the full cooperation of his organization in our endeavor to forward effectively interest in Czechoslovak philately. Our discussions were very rewarding and we are looking forward to a constant exchange of thoughts on our hobby which will be followed by reports to the members by us.

In the June issue of the Specialist there appeared a belated brief report on possible delay of the issuance of the new Pofis Catalog. We heard from a number of our members that they had the new edition in their possession and that consequently the report in the Specialist was not correct. Our correspondent had read the account in the January issue of Filatelie and by the time it was translated it reached us early in March and we expected to have it appear in our May issue. This would have been out of date by then too since we saw Pofis 1966 upon our arrival in Washington on May 20th. Fortunately no one was actually misled by this report and hence no harm done.

Toward the middle of July we spent a delightful afternoon and evening in Washington with Jerry Verner and his family. Too bad that since the time was so short (and the heat so miserably uncomfortable) we were not able to see all his beautiful material which he had with him in his temporary quarters. However, we can frankly state that Jerry has now the largest collection of the Czech Legion in Russia with items we have never seen before. We could go on and on about all we saw there and still do no justice!

Our very good friend Beede will be back in the States sometime early next year and we are sincerely looking forward to it. We are eager to have him around at the meetings of the N. Y. Branch of the Cz. P. S., as well as at the Postal History Society N. Y. Chapter meetings. Ben has recently been awarded the Gold Medal of the Postal History Society for the best article for 1964 in the Postal History Journal. This is indeed a great honor because the Journal has topnotch contributors, all foremost experts in their fields.

In the report in this issue about the convention mention was made of the possibility of publishing the Padělky translation in booklet form. Since that report we have received permission for this. However investigation into costs revealed its impracticability. We do not believe that the Society should spend an excessive amount on such a venture when the sale of the booklet would be quite limited. Other means will be discussed at a future date. Personally we do not feel that there is any particular demand for such a booklet in the United States and our members can readily have the translation bound. The page numbering has no significance since only references to the Padělky pages are of value.

Czechoslovak Philatelic Society Dinner and Convention

On Friday evening, May 27th, we had our dinner at the Chinese restaurant near to the Shoreham Hotel. We had members from various parts of the country present and a number of Guests. The Society invited Mr. Ladislav Dvořáček and Mr. Zdeněk Prokop and also Mr. John L. Briggs, Jr., to the dinner. At the end of the very fine meal Mr. Dvořáček and Mr. Prokop were asked to say a few words to the participants. We are reproducing two photographs which were taken by Mr. Stein. Unfortunately due to the physical setup of the dining room, our photographer was not able to take other pictures. The Washington Branch gave a big surprise to Dr. Reiner-Deutsch by the presentation of a parchment expressing the appreciation of the members of that Branch for his efforts on their behalf in connection with the formation of the branch.

Saturday at 2:00 p.m. president Horechny opened the convention meeting by greeting the members and asking them to introduce themselves to the gathering. He then called on Dr. Reiner-Deutsch for the report of the secretary, in the absence of Mr. Kosik. This was read, as was also a letter of appreciation from Mr. Russell on the occasion of his election to honorary membership. The treasurer was also asked for his report which was adopted as read. Member Ruhoff expressed his interest in having the Padělky translation put into booklet form. The editor stated that the Society does not possess



From left to right

Mrs. Woodbury, Mrs. Vydra, Hahn, Koplowitz, Mrs. Horechny, president Horechny, Mrs. Reiner-Deutsch, Mr. Briggs (behind the flowers)



From left to right

Mr. Dvořáček, Bilzil, Mr. Prokop, Reiner-Deutsch, Fritzsche, Mrs. Fritzsche.

permission for this. Member Helm felt that there should be action regarding it. In consequence the president asked Mr. Bilzil, the international secretary, to contact Mr. Dvořáček requesting his help in securing such permission. Af-

ter the business session the president introduced Mr. John L. Briggs, Jr., the guest speaker, who gave a very interesting talk on the postal history of Hungary before 1900 with slides showing the stamps on and off cover. The members appreciated greatly the fine presentation.

Washington Branch Meetings

At the April 30th meeting, which began at 8:00 p.m., the Convention dinner was discussed in detail and plans were made for the proposed get-together to be held on May 29 at Mr. Hahn's residence. We will make this affair a truly Czech one with all or most of the refreshments being Czech. After the business part of the meeting, Dr. Fischmeister showed us some very interesting items he picked up earlier in the day at the Mercury Stamp Auction. The meeting ended at 11:00 p.m.

At the May 14th meeting everyone was put to work making place cards for the Convention dinner. These cards will also be able to be worn as badges at SIPEX. Everything is all set for the Dinner at Yenching Palace and a report was made on the same by Mr. Vydra. Also final arrangements were made for the get-together, and we hope all will attend. Transportation will be provided from SIPEX to Mr. Hahn's residence for this occasion. All information regarding the get-together will be announced during the Dinner and Convention. The meeting closed at 11:00 p.m.

The June meeting of the Branch was held at 8:00 p.m. at the Chairman's residence with 5 members in attendance. Before the business part of the meeting, the members enjoyed a cookout prepared by Mrs. Hahn. At the meeting, SIPEX was discussed and everyone agreed that it was very good, although not as large as Praga or Wipa. After the business session everyone discussed stamps. No one gave a talk nor was any specific topic taken up. We, the members of the D. C. Branch, wish to thank all the members who attended our gathering on May 29th and hope everyone had a pleasant time, as we did also. The July meeting will be postponed one week due to the Fourth of July weekend. The meeting ended at 11:30 p.m.

At the July meeting we had the pleasure of meeting J. J. Verner and shall report on this at a later date. (W. A. S.)

New York Branch Meeting

In May, member Reiner-Deutsch was scheduled to talk but he had to leave for Washington at an earlier date than originally planned and therefore we discussed only the forthcoming events at SIPEX to which many of our members were planning to go. Our next meeting will be held in September shortly before our "evening" at the Collectors Club. At the present time we are looking forward to seeing the exhibition material of members Verner, Horechny, Koplowitz and Reiner-Deutsch. The pages of Verner will be explained by Reiner-Deutsch.

POSTAL STATIONERY COLUMN

Wolfgang Fritzsche

New Postal Stationery

Envelope: June 1966, for the stamp exhibition of young philatelists.

Size: 217x117 mm., imprinted stamp 60 h blue showing Queen Ann's Pavilion and St. Veit's Cathedral. (Similar to the just issued 30 h Pražský Hrad.) On left a design in brown by Ševčingsbír and inscription Vystava-Poštovních Známek Mladých Filatelistu Praha 1-12. VI. 1966.

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Padělky Československých Poštovních Známek

Translated by Henry Hahn

Continued

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Typical characteristics of overprint plate for stamps with portrait of T. G. Masaryk.

(Illustrations at left of page)

2nd stamp, letter O damaged in terms of several indentations

4th stamp, zero in yeardate open at top

7th stamp, letter S interrupted at top

10th stamp, dot in upper curve of letter S; number 1 damaged

15th stamp, number 1 damaged

19th stamp, letter S damaged in upper portion

32nd stamp, letter O sliced-off at top

37th stamp, two indentations in letter O

40th stamp, number 1 damaged at top

41st stamp, indentation at top of letter S; letter O interrupted at bottom

48th stamp, indentation on right side of letter O

50th stamp, letter O interrupted at top left.

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(Illustration at left of page)

55th stamp, number 1 interrupted

58th stamp, letter O damaged on right

68th stamp, letter S interrupted at bottom

72nd stamp, letter S interrupted at top

78th stamp, upper portion of number 9 lacking

81st stamp, letter O interrupted at bottom

89th stamp, letter S interrupted at top; number 1 interrupted at center

Color of overprint, in 500 h denomination is red, and in 1000 h denomination violet, without notable variations. Black overprint is a trial overprint. Imperforate stamps were not officially issued.

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Illustration

Overprint plate for special delivery stamps

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Typical characteristics of overprint plate for special delivery stamps.

In the overprint, there are repeated four characteristic lengths of the yeardate 1920

1st length

21¼ mm, appears 70 times in each sheet, on all stamps in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th vertical rows, as well as the 9th and 19th stamp, and excepting the 81st and 91st stamps.

2nd length

22½ mm, appears 27 times, on all stamps of the 5th, 9th and 10th vertical rows, with the exception of stamps 9, 19 and 50.

3rd length

22 mm, appears twice, on stamp 81 and 91.

4th length

23½ mm, appears exclusively on the 50th stamp.

By permission of the Czechoslovak Theatrical and Literary Agency, DILIA.

Stamps with faulty overprints are numbered in horizontal sequence.

(Illustration at left of page)

- 11th stamp, number 9 damaged at bottom
- 16th stamp, letter S damaged at center
- 21st stamp, letter S interrupted at bottom; O sliced-off
- 23rd stamp, letter O incompletely impressed
- 29th stamp, letter O interrupted at right bottom
- 31st stamp, number 1 damaged at top
- 56th stamp, letter O incompletely impressed
- 66th stamp, letter O interrupted at bottom

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(Illustration at left of page)

- 82nd stamp, letter S interrupted at bottom right
- 87th stamp, letter O interrupted at top
- 93rd stamp, letter O cut off at top
- 96th stamp, letter S cut off at top

In a portion of the issue, letters and numbers are lacking. The color of the overprint is light blue, black-blue or black. The rarer white paper is frequently forged by means of chemical discoloration.

Illustration of unissued stamps with overprints of type A and C
(Listing is presented in the catalog of Czechoslovak stamps POFIS)

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Illustration

Overprint plate for postage due stamps. Overprints are arranged in original sequence.

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Typical characteristics of overprint plate for postage due stamps

Illustrations with position numbers indicated

- 2nd stamp, letter S shifted somewhat upward
- 16th stamp, number 9 interrupted at bottom
- 22nd stamp, number 9 of differing type; between numbers 9 and 2 a wider space
- 24th stamp, number 2 of varying type (larger)
- 41st stamp, letters SO close together
- 51st stamp, letters SO close together
- 62nd stamp, number 1 smaller
- 80th stamp, number 1 has blunt serif
- 81st stamp, number 2 is of varying type (larger), numbers 20 are close together
- 89th stamp, zero in yeardate is open at top and bottom
- 92nd stamp, lower portion of 0 in yeardate damaged

In a small portion of the issue, the first stamp (sheet position) of the 5 h, 10 h, 30 h, and 40 h denominations contained a reversely printed letter S. Also known are missing (broken out) numbers in the yeardate. Particular attention must be paid to the color of the overprint, which is predominantly light blue, gray-blue, and in the case of some denominations, particularly the 5 h, also black-blue. The latter is often taken for the black overprint, which in the 5 h denomination occurs rarely.

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Illustration of damaged and varying overprints

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Illustration | Illustration |
| narrow "O" (14th st.—I.) | numbers 92 close together (in portion of issue) |
| Illustration | Illustration |
| narrow "O" (27th st.—I.) | number 20 close together (81st st.—III.) |
| Illustration | Illustration |
| Roman number I (21st st.—II.) | damaged number 9 (in portion of issue) |

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Illustration of damaged and varying overprints

Illustration damaged numbers 192 (in portion of issue)	Illustration overprint without yeardate (in portion of issue)
Illustration reversed letter S (1st st. in portion of issue)	Illustration letters SO close together (41st and 51st stamps)
Illustration number 9 or varying type (2nd st.)	Illustration number 2 of varying type (81st stamp)

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Counterfeit of overprint A (to defraud collectors)

Appears virtually on all denominations of mint and used Hradčany stamps and, in addition, on whole counterfeits which we described in the chapter "Hradčany"

Illustration 10 h green, counterfeit A with counterfeit of overprint A
Principal identifying characteristics of counterfeited overprint A

1. In the letter O, in the upper portion, there is a small, horizontal dash.
2. Bottom horizontal line in the numeral 1 is curved.
3. In comparison with the genuine, the outlines of the overprint are bumpy.

Illustration 20 h red, counterfeit B with counterfeit of overprint A

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Counterfeit of overprint A (to defraud collectors)

Illustration 30 h violet, counterfeit B with counterfeit of overprint A
Illustration Original 5 h stamps (Pofis catalog number SO 3) with
counterfeit of overprint A

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Counterfeit of overprint B (to defraud collectors)

This type of counterfeited overprint also appears on many denominations of both mint and used Hradčany stamps. The counterfeiters sought stamps with illegible or partial cancellations. Counterfeits of this type achieved wide distribution.

Illustration

Principal identifying characteristics of counterfeited overprint B

1. The heel in the numeral 1 is considerably damaged.
2. Numeral 9 is of narrower shape, the inside ellipse is wider.
3. In comparison with the genuine, the outlines of the overprint are bumpy.

Illustration Original stamp of the 15 h denomination (Pofis catalog
number SO 5) with counterfeited overprint B

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Counterfeit of overprint C (to defraud collectors)

Illustration 10 h green, counterfeit A, with counterfeited overprint C
Principal identifying characteristics of counterfeited overprint C

1. Inside ellipse in numeral 9 is wider.
2. Numeral 2 is wider, termination of heel differs.
3. Lower portion of letter S terminates sharply.

Illustration 20 h red, counterfeit B, with counterfeited overprint C

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Counterfeit of overprint on postage due stamps (to defraud collectors)

Appears on the 5 h denomination, black overprint, and also on the higher denominations, 500 h and 1000 h, mint and used (usually) illegible postmark).

Illustration Counterfeit A, Postage-due

1. Significantly deformed upper and lower portion of the numeral 1.

2. Closed curve in the numeral 2.
3. In comparison with the genuine overprint, the overprint outlines are bumpy.

Illustration Counterfeit B, Postage-due

1. Letters SO are narrower.
2. The heel of the numeral 1 is longer.
3. Inside oval in numeral 9 is wider.
4. Upper curve in numeral 2 is more open.

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We have made note of only a few of the most commonly circulated counterfeits, and we again emphasize, that familiarity with the genuine overprints alone affords protection against the many existing counterfeits. The counterfeiters also did not forget to provide the various irregular overprints, upside-down overprints, etc., so that here too caution is essential. In addition to the counterfeiting of overprints, genuine stamps are rendered forgeries by removal of perforations, particularly in the instance of the 5h, 10h, 15h and 20h denominations. In ascertaining whether a particular stamp has sufficiently wide borders, we proceed as in the case of the original stamps. In addition, the forging of perforations did not escape the counterfeiters' attention; this particularly in the case of the 60h denomination, 13½x13½, which appeared in larger quantities.

Forged post marks or counterfeits of post marks are unknown in the true sense of the word. Stamps and letters were frequently provided with original post marks, which, however, were back dated. This was done both within and without the plebiscite area. Singularly, letters are known to exist on which appear stamps with counterfeited overprints. The Czechoslovak portion of the plebiscite area was divided into two administrative districts. In Těšín, where our administrative offices were located, there was also a post office, which used a circular post mark with the text POŠTOVNÍ ÚŘAD ČS. PREFEKTURY v TEŠÍNĚ. In the lower portion are two stars and, briefly, ČSP.

The first administrative district for the western portion of the plebiscite area included the post offices of: (Herein are listed the names of the towns in Czech).

The second district of the administrative commission, which was located in Karviná (western portion of the county of Fryštát) included the following post offices: (Herein are listed the names of the towns in Czech).

The district under the administration of the sub-commission for Orava and Spiš included the following post offices and sub-stations:

I. ORAVA

(Herein are listed the names of post offices in Czech)

II. SPIŠ

(Herein are listed the names of post offices in Czech)

Sub-stations: Ostružna and Richwald.

The distribution point for stamps for the plebiscite territory was in Opava, and probably due to ignorance, stamps with the overprint were assigned also to some post offices lying outside the plebiscite area. (Stará Lubovňa, Kežmarok, Spišská Belá, Slovenská Ves Spišská, etc.) It was normally possible to use (overprinted) stamps in railway post offices which passed through the plebiscite territory.

Illustration

Example of counterfeited overprint on letter with post mark of postal station outside the plebiscite territory.

(to be continued)

- 639 Krejci, Charles E., 260-25 Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404
- 540 Krejci, Otakar M., 8702 Ridge Road, Bethesda, Md. 20034
- 829 Kroboth, Carl P., P. O. Box 8266, 110 Lowry Lane, Lexington, Ky. 40503
- 753 Kubat, Henry, 203 Wheeler Ave., Valley Stream, N. Y. 11580
- 453 Kutvirt, Otakar, 161 Branford Rd., Rochester, N. Y. 14618
- 688 Lasch, Henry I., 2537 Outpost Drive, Los Angeles, Calif. 90028
- 675 Lauffer, Heinz E., 290 West End Ave., New York, N. Y. 10023
- 621 Lehocky, John A., 736 Pear St., Vineland, N. J. 08360
- 380 Lichenheim, Max, Dr., Box 81, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110
- 673 Lidman, David, 390 West End Ave., New York, N. Y. 10024
- 167 Linhart, Edward C., 1820 S. Ridgeland Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402
- 788 Liska, Steve B., 7412 Lyons, Morton Grove, Ill. 60053
- 419 Lisy, Edward, 87 Carmita Ave., Rutherford, N. J. 07070
- 797 Lofland, E. N., 701 Storms Circle, Kettering, Ohio 45429
- 812 Lowe, Robson, Ltd., 50 Pallmall, London, S. W. 1, England
- 751 McMillan, Alec, 70 Sunnybrae Rd., Northcote, Auckland, New Zealand
- 810 Maldony, Michael A., 38 Utica Road, Rahway, N. J. 07065
- 483 Maresh, Charles, Jr., Powder Horn Hill Rd., Wilton, Conn. 06897
- 188 Maresh, Ferdinand, 1915 Robinson Ave., Havertown, Pa. 19083
- 590 Marton, Steve A., 3697 E. 106th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44105
- 469 Marusic, Paul, Sr., 1720 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill. 60616
- 501 Marusic, Paul R., Jr., 1720 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill. 60616
- 830 Meeks, Thomas, 532 W. 145th St., New York, N. Y. 10031
- 804 Meredith, James E., Jr., 37 Orchard Dr., Greenwich, Conn. 06830
- 787 Merrick, Ben A., Dr., 3435 W. Lawther Drive, Dallas, Texas 75218
- 583 Miller, K. D., Dr., 59 Fairview Ave., Madison, N. J. 07940
- 595 Mitchell, Robert E., 3838 So. Oak Park Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402
- 704 Mrzena, Jiri, 533 E. 83rd St., New York, N. Y. 10028
- 740 Nedomlel, Josef, 233 Main Road West, St. Albans, Victoria, Australia
- 793 Nelson, Karl H., 1676 Buchanan Drive, Pomona, Calif. 91767
- 764 Novitski, R. K., Box 31224, Aurora, Colo. 80011
- 91 Novy, Joseph, West Cornwall, Conn. 06796
- 66 Osbourn, Christian H., 60 McLoughlin Blvd., Oshawa, Ont., Canada
- 193 Ostadal, Vilem, Na Zlichove 36, Praha 3, Czechoslovakia
- 841 Pam, Charles A., 70-45 Ave., Lachine, Que., Canada
- 838 Pam, Kurt, 62 Granville Rd., Montreal, Que., Canada
- 547 Palmer, Ralph A., 509 Cheever Ave., Geneva, Ill. 60134
- 679 Pata, Laddie S., 21107 Gardenview Dr., Maple Heights, Ohio 44137
- 794 Patzelt, Charles A., 160-63-19 Ave., Whitestone, N. Y. 11357
- 730 Paz, Denis G., 926 N. Flores St., San Antonio, Texas 78212
- 479 Pearson, George, 19 Exford Ave., Westcliff-on-the-Sea, Essex, England
- 401 Pfisterer, A. Wm., 285 Merritt Ave., Bergenfield, N. J. 07621
- 813 Phillips, R. G., c/o Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 12 Buckingham St., London, W.C. 2, England
- 735 Pick, Franz, Dr., 419 East 57th St., New York, N. Y. 10022
- 581 Pobuda, Edward G., 42-04 Layton St., Elmhurst, N. Y. 11373
- 847 Pojeta, John, Jr., 4998 Battery Lane, Apt. 216, Bethesda, Md. 20014
- 379 Polivka, Milos, 101 Montrose Rd., Berkeley, Calif. 94707
- 591 Prochazka, Joseph J., Jr., 1912 Heathfield Road, Baltimore, Md. 21214
- 686 Ray, Samuel, 3600 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60613
- 697 Reiner-Deutsch, Mrs. Regina, Box 24, Bayside, N. Y. 11361
- 647 Riddle, Keith C., 10 Burwood Close, Hersham, Surrey, England
- 750 Roberts, Mrs. Louise, Box 1972-Main Office, Los Angeles, Calif. 90053
- 457 Rogers, Eric H., 27 Brewster Rd., Leyton, London 10, England
- 227 Rosner, Frank J., 3727 - 4th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, Fla. 33713

- 800 Rudd, Martha E., 4316 Blue Rock Rd., Dayton, Ohio 45432
843 Ruhoff, Theodore B., 2024 Parkway Drive, Laurel, Md. 20810
746 Ryan, Gary Sidney, 32 Wolsey Rd., Moor Park, Northwood, Middlesex, Eng.
774 Schabow, George William, Rt. 5, 12-1st Ave., Antioch, Ill. 60002
811 Schensnol, Leon, Box 227, Franklin, Mass. 02038
200 Schneider, Paul, 51 West 86th St., New York, N. Y. 10024
778 Schussler, Frank C., 5238 W. Hutchinson St., Chicago, Ill. 60641
151 Schwanderla, Anthony, 108-05 Spa Pl., Jamaica, N. Y. 11435
785 Schwartz, I. B., 181 Westwood Circle, Roslyn Heights, L. I., N. Y. 11577
846 Sedlarik, Ladislav, Boh. Martinu 719, Ostrava-Poruba, Czechoslovakia
693 Serchak, George J., 28 Marwood North Rd., Pt. Washington, N. Y. 11050
816 Sheppard, Mrs. Edward L., 645 Delaware Ave., St. Paul, Minn. 55107
459 Sixta, A. F., Dr., P. O. Box 336, Alliance, Nebr. 69301
782 Slanski, John M., 53 Fairfield Ave., Norwalk, Conn. 06854
747 Slivon, Louis S., 1144 So. Elmwood Ave., Oak Park, Ill. 60304
367 Sloboda, Rudolph F., Box 56, Church Lane Rd., Englishtown, N. J. 07726
818 Sousa, Lt. Col. Joseph M., 485 W. Gate Drive, State College, Pa. 16801
837 Spacek, Mrs. J. C., 3856 Hamilton St., Port Coquitlam, B. C., Canada
826 Spiel, Mrs. Helen Mae, 108 Tilden Ave., Chardon, Ohio 44024
102 Spofford, R. L., 4815 Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60615
23 Stach, Alfons, P. O. Box 387, Lenox, Mass. 01240
525 Steffel, R. S., Major, 232 Grandview Ave., Delaware, Ohio 43015
594 Stehlik, Charles W., SSgt., USMC, Marine Barracks, U. S. Naval Base, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11251
443 Steiner, Frank, 1346 D N. Harper, Los Angeles, Calif. 90046
707 Sterba, Joseph F., 6624 Windsor Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402
743 Stiffler, Charles M., Jr., P. O. Box 893, El Cerrito, Calif. 94531
444 Stoyel, A. J., 50 Kynaston Ave., Thornton Heath, Surrey, England
832 Sutherland, Hardy G., 2725 Buckingham Ave., Lakeland, Fla. 33803
792 Swap, C. Ralph, Box 1117, Juneau, Alaska 99807
732 Taussig, Sidney, 11 Saul Place, Plainview, N. Y. 11803
172 Thivierge, Albert, Box 324, Woodside, N. Y. 11377
678 Thomas, Jesse Burgess, Box 1021, Washington, D. C. 20013
834 Thompson, Harry S., 6705 Iris Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45213
463 Trnovsky, William, 38 View Road, Calistago, Calif. 94515
229 Turner, George T., 408 A Street S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003
295 VanHandel, Ray, Jr., 2108 N. 19th St., Sheboygan, Wisc. 53081
11 Velek, John, 6218 W. Diversey, Chicago, Ill. 60639
702 Velisek, Aldrich F., Sr., 3117 Ralph Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44109
162 Vrzalik, Leo F., Jr., 4315 Penn Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21236
776 Vydra, Ladislav H., P. O. Box 1143, Rockville, Md. 20850
323 Walther, Ray A., 2631 Harvard N. W., Canton, Ohio 44709
845 Walzel, Vladimír S., 150-54-78th Ave., Flushing, N. Y. 11367
736 Ward, Raymond W., 4048 Third Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92103
842 Willett, Keith V., 309-3rd St., Lewiston, Idaho 83501
835 Williams, Malcolm L., 306 Dartmouth Rd., Raleigh, N. C. 27609
805 Wolf, Harry, 644 Evelyn Court, Lafayette, Calif. 94549
803 Wolleson, H. H., 1700 Hassett Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89105
630 Yanco, Oliver C., 1145 State St., Bellingham, Wash. 98225
282 Zaviska, Frank J., 3640 W. 63rd St., Chicago, Ill. 60629
521 Zeman, Paul, 1549 Walker Ave., Union, N. J. 07083
844 Zika, Eduard, V Bezovce 15, Plzen, Czechoslovakia
713 Zike, Jan Vaclav, 720 Fresno Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45240
828 Zitney, Mrs. Lilly M., 195 Albatross Ave., Livermore, Calif. 94550

Czechoslovakiana

By Capt. Edward J. Benchik, U.S.A.

No, the title of this article is not a misspelling of Czechoslovakia but instead is concerned with stamps pertaining to Czechoslovakia issued by other countries and other related stamps. Besides the expected postal emissions from Russia, Red China, and the satellite countries, even Cuba, there are stamps about Czechoslovakia that have come from some very surprising countries which one does not nowadays normally associate with Czechoslovakia. Vatican City, Israel, Panama, and Cambodia are a few of the countries in this latter group. Even the U. S. A. has not forgotten good old Czechoslovakia, as we have issued four stamps about the land of the Czechs and Slovaks.

Let's begin with our own country. In 1943 the Overrun Countries Issue came out with the second stamp of this set honoring Czechoslovakia by showing her flag (Scott 910). The next time we encounter an American issue is in 1960 with a set of two stamps for the first president of Czechoslovakia, Thomas G. Masaryk (Scott 1147, 1148). This set was part of the Champion of Liberty series. An interesting Czechoslovak-American tie regarding this set is that President Masaryk was married to a Brooklyn girl. As a matter of fact, his love was so great for his wife that he even took her maiden name as his middle name. Lastly from the U. S. A. is the 1964 Physical Fitness-Sokol stamp (Scott 1262). This stamp had a dual purpose: to publicize the importance of physical fitness and to commemorate the centenary of the founding of the Sokols in America. The first three mentioned stamps are in the category of having their design and purpose primarily and only for Czechoslovakia and the last stamp (Physical Fitness-Sokol) is an example of a stamp whose design and intention is partly for Czechoslovakia and partly for another subject.

Now considered will be the stamps of other nations that have as their motif and object only Czechoslovakia. Cambodia in 1961 thanked five countries for the aid she received by a set of stamps. The first one in the set (Scott 101) shows a power station that was built with Czechoslovak assistance. Another land to thank Czechoslovakia for aid by means of a diminutive receipt for prepayment of mail service, this time for cooperation in producing these types of receipts (postage stamps) was Red China (Gibbons 1627) in 1959. Germany (Scott B132, B133), Hungary (Scott 535, 536), and Poland (Scott 334) thanked Czechoslovakia for another kind of "aid." They all issued stamps in 1938 for the restoration of territory previously ceded to Czechoslovakia. Bulgaria (Scott 1016), North Korea (Gibbons NK 150), Russia (Scott 2085), and North Viet Nam (Gibbons NO 30) each issued one stamp for the First World Trade Union Conference of Working Youths at Prague in 1958. Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship was commemorated in 1951 by a set of five Russian postage stamps (Scott 1605, 1606, 1607, 1608, 1609). Two of these stamps pictured two famous Czechoslovak personalities, who will be named later. Views of two monuments and a museum are on the remaining three stamps. Two countries in 1960 wished Czechoslovakia a happy 15th anniversary of "liberation" (taken in the loosest sense of the word) by a set of two from Russia (Scott 2319, 2320) and a like number from Red China (Gibbons 1709, 1710). The Kremlin comrades not to be outdone by their contemporaries in Peking, not only issued a stamp in 1963 for the 20th anniversary of the Russo-Czechoslovakian treaty (Scott 2817), but also a stamp in 1965 for the 20th anniversary of "liberation" from German occupation (Scott 2903). Germany for the Winterhilfswerk (a charitable organization that gave food, fuel, and clothes to the poor in winter time during the Nazi regime), in 1940 shows

on a semi-postal stamp the New German theater in Prague (Scott B183). East Germany remembered the "helpfulness" of the Nazi Germans by a 1962 set for the 20th anniversary of the destruction of Lidice (Scott 607, 608).

Other than Masaryk on U. S. A. stamps, other famous men of Czechoslovakia are pictured on those of foreign nations. Julius Fucik is on a 1962 semi-postal from East Germany (Scott B85) and also on a single of the above named 1951 Russian set for Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship. Jan Amos Komensky (Comenius) is commemorated on two stamps of East Germany in 1958 (Scott 397, 398). Russia comes with two more stamps, Jaroslav Hasek being remembered on a 1963 single (Scott 2740) and a statue of Jan Žižka depicted on another of the stamps for the 1951 Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship set. Last and not least we see Klement Gottward on an East German stamp in 1952 for the East German-Czechoslovak friendship (Scott 99). Quite an abundance of friendship stamps here.

In the realm of the unusual, there is a Hungarian regular stamp (Scott 1194) se-tenant (Scott 1194a) with an airmail (Scott C184) to commemorate a 1958 communications conference in Prague. One stamp of the airmail set by Panama for the occasion of Vatican II, the 21st Ecumenical Council of the Roman Catholic Church, has pictured on it St. Elizabeth's Cathedral at Kosice but incorrectly lists this Church as being in Kassa, Hungary (Scott C307).

Stamps-on-stamps has its place in this article as Cuba in 1962 put out an airmail stamp (Gibbons 717) for the PRAGA International Stamp Exhibition showing the 1961 Czechoslovak 5K stamp, Scott 1080, publicizing the exhibition. Also, Hungary for the 5th conference of Communications Ministers of Socialist Countries in 1963 at Budapest, shows Czechoslovakia, Scott 1108, on the 3rd stamp of this set of twelve (Scott C238). Even though this set was not issued primarily for Czechoslovakia as a stamp from all of the Communist countries is on a stamp, one stamp for each country, it is included in this section as this stamp of the set was issued only for Czechoslovakia.

Another set being issued for a group of countries and having one stamp of the set only for Czechoslovakia, but without the stamps-on-stamps design, is the Yugoslavian Pan-Slavic Congress at Belgrade issue of five stamps in 1946. The picture on one (Scott 207) shows a view of Prague.

This brings us to the next section which are stamps that pertain partly to Czechoslovakia and the same stamp partly to other countries. Poland and East Germany have both issued quite a few stamps for the International Bicycle Race from Prague to Berlin and then on to Warsaw. A few times the race was in reverse direction of the above order. The 1st, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 15th races were each observed by issues from Poland (Scott 419, 547, 570, 571, 572, 680, 681, 727, 728, 777, 778, 1053, 1054 and 1055). Stamps from East Germany emerged relating to the 5th, 8th, 9th and 10th races (Scott 98, 239, 240, 289, 290 and 346). The 10th anniversary of the Battle of Stalingrad in 1953 was remembered by a set of two stamps from Hungary. On one of the stamps (Scott 1033), there is an outline map of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Germany with the capital of each country, including Prague, forming the background for a Russian soldier and flags. With a set of three stamps, Vatican City celebrated the 1100th anniversary in 1963 of the beginning of missionary work among the Slavic people by Sts. Cyril and Methodius (Scott 369, 370, 371). Two stamps show the saints and a third has on it a map of Moravia, Hungary, and Poland. Israel has a stamp and a souvenir sheet for its national stamp exhibition TAVIV at Tel Aviv in 1962. The design on both (Scott 187, 187a) is a Jewish Postal Courier in Prague during the 18th century. Romania (Scott 461, 462), and Yugoslavia (Scott 138, 139) in 1936 placed into circulation a set of stamps for the 16th anniversary of the Little Entente, of which Czechoslovakia was the third member. Romania also issued

Edward John (Jack) Benchik was born in Logansport, Indiana, on 25 May 1938 and raised in Shelbyville, Indiana. He graduated from Marmion Military Academy, Aurora, Illinois, and University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, while at the latter he majored in geology and minored in engineering. Presently he is a Captain in the United States Army Corps of Engineers stationed in Germany. He and his wife, Rosemary, have a son born on 4 June of this year.

Captain Benchik's stamp collecting achievements include membership in our society since he was 12 years old, the American Philatelic Society, and the Collectors Club of New York. He has a general U. S. and foreign collection, specializes in U. S. Possessions and Zululand, and his philatelic prime interest is Czechoslovakia.



another set of two stamps (Scott 467, 468) a year later to commemorate this same alliance of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and Romania.

In addition to the U. S. stamp of 1943 and the Red China 15th anniversary "liberation" issue, the Czechoslovak flag has been on a few other stamps. Hungary shows it on three stamps with the flags of other countries. It is shared with the Spanish flag on a semi-postal for the 1962 World Soccer Championships in Chile (Scott B224). The 1959 International Letter Writing Week stamp has many flags in the design of one hand giving a letter to another hand. The Czechoslovak flag is in the upper part of the left hand (Scott 1263). For the 40th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution in 1957, the flags of the communist countries form a circle and the flag we are interested in is at the nine o'clock position (Scott 1174).

The Communists ministers' meeting on social problems in 1957 at Moscow was observed philatelically by a stamp from Russia (Scott 2067) that shows communication symbols and many flags. The center flag is a vertical row of five which the Czechoslovak flag is erroneously depicted with the red stripe on top. The Russians rarely acknowledge a mistake but they had to in this case as this one was so obvious. They reissued the stamp having corrected the Czechoslovak flag to what it should be (Scott 2067a). Romania in 1962 observed the 8th Youth Festival for Peace and Friendship in Helsinki by a stamp (Scott 1490) that has two globes surrounded with flags, the Czechoslovak flag is at the left side, 9 o'clock position, of the upper globe.

Only for the record and for absolutely no other reason, are the stamps included from such areas as North Korea, North Viet Nam, Cuba, and Red China. Their listing here is not to be misinterpreted as an endorsement of them by either the Society or the author. Because these places issued stamps about Czechoslovakia and that is what this article is about, they are mentioned only for the sake of completeness. Even after this explanation, lest anyone should still have any doubts as to the loyalty of the Society and the author, the next part deals with an interesting sideline of this subject—Czechoslovak stamps issued about the United States.

There have been some unusual aspects of these kind of stamps as exemplified by the first five. In 1945 Czechoslovakia issued a set of five stamps for the commemoration of the national uprising against the Germans. One stamp of this set has for its design (Scott 288), the flags, from left to right, of Russia, England, U. S. A., and Czechoslovakia. What is unusual is that the American flag on this stamp has staggered vertical rows of stars. This is the pattern of the present flag and not as it was over twenty years ago, which was then even vertical rows of stars when this stamp was printed. How the Czechs and Slovaks could forecast the arrangement of stars of our present flag over twenty years ago is a good question. But on two stamps of the 1961 set for the PRAGA 1962 International Philatelic Exhibition, is pictured the American flag with the stars in even vertical rows. When in reality by this time our flag was in its present configuration of staggered vertical rows. Since the U. S. flag was but one of many on each stamp, this even row arrangement of stars in the design as the flag is so small that this is possibly the only way to show it in such a small space. 17 June 1946 was the day of the first flight from Prague to New York and a special airmail stamp (Scott C25) was issued for use on this flight. So what's so unusual about this? Nothing except that this stamp has no inscription on it to indicate the above event. As a matter of fact this stamp has exactly the same design as two other stamps of a regular definitive air mail set. The only way to differentiate this stamp from the others having the same design is by its blue color and cream shaded paper. The next unusual item is the following stamp that pertains to the American scientist Edwin H. Armstrong. He and his research radio tower at Alpine, N. J., were the subject of a 1959 stamp (Scott 954) of a set honoring inventors in the field of telegraphy and radio. Even though a foreign country, Czechoslovakia, saw it fit to remember this world renown physicist for his scientific achievements, his native land, the U. S. A. has yet failed to do so.

Now we come to the less unusual and more common philatelic emissions of Czechoslovakia, those having popular present day subjects concerned with the U. S. A.—the olympics and space. Two stamps were issued in 1960 for the 8th Olympic Winter Games at Squaw Valley, California (Scott 955, 966). The Americans: John Glenn, Scott Carpenter, Walter Schirra, and Gordon Cooper are each on a stamp of a 1964 set honoring the first ten astronauts (Scott 1235, 1236, 1238, 1239). The last stamp of another set concerned with space in 1964 was issued to mark U. S. A. and U. S. S. R. meteorological and space collaboration (Scott 1295). Back to the topical subject of the olympics in 1965 with a set recalling Czechoslovakian victories in the olympic games. One stamp (Scott 1299) shows Jaroslav Skobla for winning a gold medal in weight lifting at the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 1932. Not to be forgotten and thereby getting on the bandwagon for the hottest topical area in philately nowadays, namely space, Czechoslovakia issued in 1965 more stamps about American space endeavors, depicting Virgil Gisson and John Young on one stamp (Scott 1303) and a rocket launching pad at Cape Kennedy, Florida, on another (Scott 1305). Five pairs of these stamps on each sheet are se-tenant.

The last aspect of this article is the United Nations stamp for the Cessation of Nuclear Testing Issue (Nuclear Test Ban Treaty) of 1964 (Scott 133). This stamp was printed in Czechoslovakia by a contract with Artia for the U.N.

Below is a summarized check list for all the above mentioned stamps. This listing is by no means entirely complete, but the vast majority of stamps pertaining to Czechoslovakia by foreign lands, Czechoslovak stamps about the U. S. and foreign stamps printed in Czechoslovakia are in this article.

From time to time in the future, this listing will be brought up to date by the inclusion of new issues and the addition of past issues that have prev-

iously escaped attention. All numbers are Scott except those indicated by Gib for Gibbons.

Foreign Stamps About Czechoslovakia			
Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	U. S. A.
1016	535	334	910
	536	419	1147
Cambodia	1033	547	1148
101	1174	570	1262
	1194	571	
China (Red)	1194a	572	Vatican City
Gib 1627	1263	680	369
Gib 1709	B224	681	370
Gib 1710	C238	727	371
		728	
Cuba	Israel	777	Viet Nam (North)
Gib 717	187	778	Gib NO 90
	187a	1053	
		1054	
Germany		1055	
B132	Jugoslavia		
B133	138		
B183	139	Russia	
	207	1605	
Germany (East)		1606	
98	Korea (North)	1607	
99	Gib Nk150	1608	
239		1609	
240	Panama	2067	
289	C307	2067a	
290		2085	
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