

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK Specialist

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Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

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## EDITORIAL

Members please note that the Washington Branch of our Society has expressed its willingness to provide a non-profit new issue service for the membership with the cost on a subscription basis only. All surplus accrued will be donated to the treasury of the Society. Anyone wishing to avail himself of this service strictly for the benefit of the Society, kindly contact the secretary of the Branch, Mr. Wm. A. Sandrik, 1225 13th St. N. W., Washington, D. C. 20005.

We spent an interesting time at Newark in October, where we had the pleasure of serving as a judge at NOJEX. This is being mentioned only because we intended to place a few frames on exhibit there but due to the request of the Exhibition Chairman to take part in the judging we decided to postpone our own participation for another time. The American Philatelic Congress had its annual meeting there and we attended its seminar. We also had the opportunity to be at the meeting of the Philatelic Press Club which is the American counterpart of the International Association of Philatelic Journalists.

Our Treasurer suffered a great loss recently when his wife passed away after a severe illness. We all felt with him in his bereavement.

In the publication Stamp Lover which is the official journal of the National Philatelic Society of Great Britain we find our Specialists' articles always mentioned in its indexing of current Philatelic articles. This dissemination of information is of outstanding value for the collectors of Czechoslovakia. In this connection we wish to state that the present valuation of stamps of our country of interest has been noticeably raised in the new Scott catalogue.

In the November issue we neglected to emphasize that the payment of dues to the treasurer is urgently requested. All of you have received the dues envelopes with the November Specialist and we hope you will all promptly pay the amount you wish to spend on your membership. Many of you could easily raise your class membership. Bear in mind that the cost of printing is going up everywhere and that you are getting a monthly issue which contains much valuable information.

Here we have again the end of a year and we hope all of you will have a healthy, good Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We have received a notice from Anthony Russo, 22 W. Madison St., Room 338, Chicago, Ill. 60602, announcing dates of the 14th Midwest Postage Stamp and Coin Show on April 7-9, 1967, which will be held at the Exhibition Hall of the Palmer House in Chicago. Anyone wishing additional details on this show, please contact Mr. Russo.

## THE CZECH-AMERICAN INDIAN STORY

By George A. Blizil

When the seven-value set for American Indians was announced last May, many American philatelists snickered, placed their tongues in cheek, and asked "What next!?" At the time, the first thought was that it was just another topical-type issue devised to extract funds from collectors throughout the world. Perhaps it is.

But there is another side to the story. The Czechoslovak people always had an interest in the American Indian. Among the favorite imported movies shown in Prague today are the American cowboy-Indian thrillers. This is especially true with the younger generation. The writer witnessed this last year in Prague. Another amusing thing witnessed were American Indian and cowboy songs translated into their native language. Did you ever hear "Home On The Range" sung in Czech?

The American Indian commemorative stamps were issued June 20, 1966. It was Czechoslovakia's way of calling attention to the Naprstek Museum's ethnographic collection. And who is Naprstek?

If it had not been for his part in the October Revolution of 1848, Vojtech Naprstek would not have found it necessary to flee to the New World. At the time he was a student at the University of Vienna. And if he hadn't come to the U. S. there probably would be no Naprstek Museum in Prague and no set of Czechoslovak stamps picturing the American Indians and their way of life.



(Stamps for illustration furnished by Frank Kosik)

Young Naprstek left Europe a jump ahead of the police and settled in Milwaukee, then a frontier town. He became so fascinated with Indians he even learned the language of the Dakotas, the Plains warriors, better known to most Americans as the Sioux.

Naprstek's varied career in America included factory jobs, operating a bookshop and stationery store, and acting as agent and interpreter for newer immigrants from Central Europe. But Indians were his hobby. He even visited the Sioux as a member of a state expedition (this was 20 years before they wiped out Gen. George Custer's force at the Little Big Horn). Before he returned to his native Bohemia in 1858, Naprstek assembled a varied collection of ethnological material which has been on display in Prague since 1862.

Here are detailed descriptions of the multi-colored stamps:

20h—An Indian group with typical buffalo hide teepee and dugout canoe, most likely to have been found on the American Northwest Coast.

30—A highly decorated tomahawk and samples of Indian pictograph writing.

40h—Three huge totem poles carved by Indians of the Pacific Northwest.

60h—A Kachina Doll of the type used by the Pueblo Indians of the Southwest in religious ceremonies.

1 Kcs.—A buffalo hunting scene. It is interesting to note that this design is a reversed version of the 4c U. S. Trans-Mississippi issue of 1898.

1.20 Kcs.—Shown are a peace pipe and a beaded tobacco pouch.

1.40 Kcs.—A brilliant four-color reproduction of a Dakota chief in eagle-feather war bonnet.

So much for the Indians. However, an equally popular Prague museum and display is devoted to the artifacts and relics of the Eskimo. With Flowers, Insects, Birds, Fish, Butterflies, Space Achievements, Dogs, and now Indians featured on Czechoslovak stamps, perhaps we can someday look forward to an Eskimo series!

#### SOME ISSUES OF 1966

Each of the four special-occasion postage stamps to be issued by the Czechoslovak Post and Telecommunications Administration on July 1966, is linked with a certain cultural-political or cultural-historical event. All four stamps were designed by the same artist—Vincent Hložník (1919), Meritorious Artist twice State Prize Winner, Slovak painter, graphic artist and illustrator. This artist ranks among the most significant representatives of Slovak fine arts and is a professor graphic art as well as rector of the Bratislava Academy of Fine arts. Since last year, Prof. Hložník has applied himself also to Czechoslovak stamp designing; his debut in this field was a graphically pure and very striking design for the stamp issued on the occasion of the 500th anni-



(Stamps for illustration furnished by Frank Kosik)

versary of the Academia Istropolitana in Bratislava. He has now designed four stamps about whose themes we present at least some basic information.

The first stamp bears the inscription "Slavin/Bratislava." Its picture represent the modern monument that has become the landmark of Bratislava, the Slovak metropolis on the Danube. The Bratislava Slavin (Pantheon) is—in spite of the historically short period of its existence—a political and cultural document. It is the resting place of Soviet soldiers who died during the very last weeks of the Second World War while engaged in battles for the liberation of Bratislava which regained its freedom on April 4, 1945. This spring twenty-one years will have elapsed since that event a warning, a perpetual warning against deadly wars . . .

The second stamp is inscribed with the word "Děvin." It calls attention to one of the oldest castles whose origin dates back to the first half of the 9th century of our era. The existence of a Slav settlement on this territory on the confluence of the rivers Danube and Morava has been confirmed by archaeological findings intimating that in the old days the ruin was a primeval citadel. It was inhabited in the Bronze, Roman and Slav Ages. In the nearby village of Devinská Nová Ves, Hunnish-Slav burying grounds have been uncovered which date from the 7th and the 8th century. In the foreground of the picture is a portrait of Ludovít Štúr and behind him a group of his followers. Ludovít Štúr, a leading personage of the national and democratic movement in Slovakia in the forties of the 19th century, as well as those close to him considered Devín to be the symbol of their efforts on behalf of national integrity. And to this day Devín has remained the symbol of the Slovak nation—with the national festival held here every year.

The third stamp with the text "Náchod—700 let města" (Náchod—the 700 year old town), brings to mind this lovely town in the East-Bohemian region, a town dominated by a Renaissance chateau with a park and an open-air theatre. It is 700 years old, just like many other communities that were founded in Bohemia in the 13th century under King Přemysl Otakar II. The towns appear to have been erected on the site of what used to be a fortified stronghold. The names of many Czech writers are connected with the history of the town of Náchod, writers who have created gems of Czech national literature. Today, Náchod—a town of a population of not quite 20,000—has its own modern industries (cotton-textile, rubber, engineering and wood-working). Náchod is often referred to as "the Town of Lilacs," owing to the enormous number of lilac bushes blooming there in the spring time. Czechoslovak and foreign visitors are very fond of Náchod and frequently visit it. The fourth

The fourth stamp with the inscription "700 let Státní vědecké knihovny—Olomouc" (700 years of the State Science Library—Olomouc) reminds us of the significant anniversary of an institution which, for four centuries, has been a source of knowledge in the field of science and technology, an institution which is three years older than Palacký University at Olomouc. The State Science Library at Olomouc has actually functioned as Moravia's national library since the beginning of the 19th century. This collection of old manuscripts of this library are very comprehensive and its contacts with people interested in them, both Czechoslovak and foreign, are very numerous. The library is open to the public and thus its activities are all the more valuable. The town of Olomouc, housing this library, is an important center of the North-Moravian region. It can boast of many Romanesque and Gothic architectural monuments.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. L. V. Fischmeister, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C. 20020

## FROM OLD TELČ — ANDRES

Edited and Translated by Henry Hahn

Back in the eighties and nineties of the last century, when Telč was not as yet linked with the rest of the world by railroad, postal service included daily two regularly scheduled postal coaches from Jihlava, via Třešt, and one daily mail coach from Dačice, Nová Říše and Studená. The latter arrived in the morning, presided over by "Postilion Andres," and returned to Dačice in the afternoon. The man Andres was somewhat of a character, who performed this duty faithfully for a period of fifty years. He was a familiar and welcome sight. His status among the adult population was in no small measure due to the existence of a lottery ("lotynka") which upon the death of old Mrs. Petzlová was headquartered in Dačice rather than Telč. Andres acted in the capacity of lottery agent in addition to transacting a variety of other business transactions between the two bustling towns. While he thoroughly garbled messages and caused great confusion in the many business transactions, nothing ever interfered with his tranquil and sedate nature. He loved Telč; in fact he was often heard to say: "I'm more a 'Telčan' than a 'Dačičan,' after all, I'm in Telč all day, and only go to Dačice to sleep."

When Andres celebrated his fiftieth anniversary of postal service, he received as a token for his faithful service a "distinguished service cross," a monetary prize, and a magnificent red uniform in the rococo style. The town stopped in its tracks when Andres first appeared in his loud parade uniform, with orange lining, his tall shiny boots, a two-cornered red hat sporting a long plume, his gold service cross, and a brand new postal horn tied by a green lanyard to his hip. Andres marched proudly that day, as all eyes turned in his direction. Following him was a sizable crowd of urchins. Andres stopped to chat with friends, and explained that the magnificent uniform and medal came all the way from Vienna, in fact, from the Emperor himself—for faithful services. As he showed himself to all the town big-shots—receiving a gold piece or more from each—his thoughts drifted in the direction of Count Leopold Podztatsky-Lichtenstein, whose castle entrance graces the main square of Telč. At the entrance stood young Count Karel, who grinned as he saw the brightly uniformed Andres. "Some get-up" said he.

"Isn't it something?—My parade Uniform!—Came from the Emperor himself, for faithful service, 'cause I drove for 50 years from Dačice to Telč and nothing ever happened to me." "I congratulate you, dear Andres."—"I thank you for your congratulations, young sir count. Sure looks good, doesn't it. And how is your father. Is he home? I'd like to pay him a visit." "Well, come along, the Count will get a kick out of you." The young count led Andres into the castle, left him in charge of the butler, and hurried on to announce the honored guest.

In a few moments the butler led Andres through the halls and chambers to the count's private apartments. Andres' heavy pegged shoes left distinct marks in the form of nails and hoofs in the shiny parquet flooring. The butler groaned and pleaded for Andres to keep to the rugs, but Andres would have none of it. "Wouldn't think of dirtying his Excellency's carpeting."

On seeing Andres, the Count could not suppress a laugh. "Andres, you are beautiful—like a parrot!" "Yes, Sir." Andres was seated at the table, food and drink was served, and the Count joined Andres in a drink to the health of the whole family. The Count greatly admired Andres appetite. He easily finished a full plate of meat. Another plate was brought, and Andres' appetite showed no letup. Finally, he slowed, and turning to the Count apologized: "I'm afraid I can't eat any more, but if you don't mind, I'll have a piece of newspaper, and take it home with me—it would be a shame to waste



it. You wouldn't eat it anyway, and, you know, I'll finish it when I get home." A good laugh was enjoyed by all.

A package of food was prepared, Andres lit a pipe, told story after story, drank as he went along, and spat on the floor as was his custom. The butler placed a spittoon in strategic position. When Andres noticed the spittoon, he simply began to spit on the other side. The butler quickly moved the spittoon to accomodate the honored guest. Thereupon Andres gave the butler a cold stare, followed by a threat: "I'll warn you, if you don't get this thing out of the way I'm likely to spit right into it!" The Count, his sons Alois and Karel grinned, the butler was waved off, and Andres merrily continued missing the spittoon and telling homey jokes. Finally, he ceremoniously withdrew an ancient watch from his pocket, took a long look, and got up. "Darnit, I shure talked, and time shure has gone, didn't it. But I shure packed my gut! You know, it's a pity that I have to go. Have to hitch up the horses, you know. Well, God bless you all. And give my regards to your Mrs.—Too bad she couldn't see me too." Andres shook everybody's hand, including the butler's, and left with great majesty, with his package under arm, in the direction of the Macků inn. He hitched up the horses, threw the Dačice mail bag in the coach, and greatly elated, left Telč once again. A string of boys followed the coach to the edge of town.

The story has it, that for one whole week, in spite of continuous airing, the smell from Andres (pipe) remained in clear evidence throughout the castle. Nevertheless, the Count insisted, that he never did so much enjoy himself, as on occasion of the fiftieth jubilee of the postilion.

This is the end of the tale. It's not much in the way of postal history, but it is authentic and part of the official town chronicle. The following paragraph, incidentally, is the only serious postal history of the Telč region we were able to dig up:

Telč lacked an official postal service for far too long. In 1759, wrote father Lipka to his attorney in Brno, to have his mail forwarded "per Želetava," from whence it may be gotten two times per week. Apparently, right up to 1830, a foot courier carried mail to Telč from Želetava three times per week. Only in 1836 was a mail station established in Telč. The service was limited to letters and packages below 3 pounds in weight.

A horse-drawn post was established between Telč, Stonařov, Želetava, Jihlava and Batelov in 1849, and to Dačice in 1860. (Note that this is not consistent with the above story). After that a connection was established between Telč, Mor. Budějovice (postal stations in Nová Říše, Želetava) and between Telč and Studená, and from there to the railroad in Horní Vilímeč. (Ref. Jan Tiray: Vlastivěda Moravská, Telecký okres, str. 70).

With the establishment of the local train Cejle Kostelec to Telč in 1889 and its extension in 1902 to Dačice, Slavonice and Schwarzenau, the horse-drawn mail was discontinued.

#### WASHINGTON BRANCH OCTOBER MEETING

This meeting was held on October 1st at the home of Mr. Hahn. The secretary reported that all extra copies of Pofis had been sold. At this meeting the members decided to offer a non-profit new issue service to members of the Society with cost on a subscription basis. All surplus funds would be donated to the national society's treasury. These meetings are always informal and consist mainly of exchange of ideas, in addition to the showing of parts of collections by individual members.

(W. S. S.)

## Padělky Československých Poštovních Známek

Translated by J. J. Verner

### Conclusion

### Illustration

The great pressure on the paper caused by the teeth of the perforator creates a slight indentation around each hole which does not appear on forged perforations. Forged perforations usually have sharp holes which appear as if they had been chopped out.

### B. Line Perforations

Line perforations are created by a single line of teeth which moves down the sheet in successive strikes perforating the sheet horizontally and, after turning it on its side, vertically. All four margins are thus perforated. As the first point of comparison it is important to note that the corner holes are not neatly aligned as they are in a comb perforation. The horizontal progression of the perforator, and after turning the sheet, the vertical progression along the sheet, usually form an irregular combination of perforation holes at each corner of the stamp. If one of the teeth is slightly out of line—which will cause the corresponding hole to be out of line—each line will bear the same irregularity (unless the tooth is repaired). There is only a slight possibility that the perforator's strikes will fall so as to create well aligned corner holes similar in appearance to a comb perforation.

Line perforations often appear considerably shifted—even to the vignette and sometimes the perforator varies in distance between strikes. In testing genuineness, the pressure of the teeth is again very important since, as with the comb perforator, it causes a slight indentation around the hole.

### 3. Forging by Cutting Off Perforations

Some denominations are more valuable imperforate while others, perforated. Both received the attention of forgers. They chose stamps with wide margins so they could cut off the perforations and thus "create" the more sought after imperforate stamp. The genuine imperforate stamp must have sufficient margins on all sides to completely cover any like stamp with minimally acceptable margins on all four sides. On suspect copies we check to make certain that the stamp was not carefully trimmed and that there are no traces of the perforator's indentations. Establishing the dimensions of acceptable minimal margins is basic to accurate evaluation of the genuineness of an imperforate stamp.

#### 4. Intentionally Altered Color

One characteristic of genuine stamps is bright color. Stamps whose color has been altered usually are murky and the paper smudged. It is possible to change color with light (sun rays) or chemicals. For instance, exposure to the sun will change brown to gray brown, olive to green or blue green, light green to yellow green, reddish orange to lemon yellow and so on. Far greater changes are possible with the aid of chemicals. Carmine and rose can be changed to yellow, orange, brown or gray; vermilion and orange to yellow, rose, brown, green and gray;

#### Page 12

green to yellow, brown, blue, violet and gray; blue to yellow, orange, brown, green, violet and black; violet to yellow, rose, green, blue and gray.

The shades of the following denominations of the Hradčany Issue must be carefully examined:

15 h grayish red (Pofis No. 7a)  
120 h silver gray (Pofis No. 21a)  
1000 h bluish violet (Pofis No. 26a)

#### 5. Altered Paper

##### A. Tinting and changing paper types

The 2 h, 5h, and 10 h special delivery stamps were printed on yellowish paper and, in much smaller quantities, on white paper. The yellowish paper was often bleached to create the rarer white paper. Details are given in our description of these forgeries. Stiff, transparent paper, also called grease-proof paper, is to be found among the 40 h and 60 h T. G. Masaryk stamps (Pofis No. 187 Aa, 189Aa), denominations 2 Kčs and 3 Kčs depicting Prague (Pofis Nos. 225b and 226b), and 10 h, 20 h, 30 h and 40 h denominations of the Coat of Arms issue (Pofis No. 249a, 250a, 252a and 253b) and has been to have been altered by chemical means. Stamps so treated have a matt appearance and look as if they were greasy.

##### B. Joining

Glueing stamps together was the method used to create forged gutter pairs of the Nitra (Pofis No. M273), Hradčany (Pofis Nos. M2-M12), and newspaper stamps (Pofis Nos. M1-M4) and joined types of the Chainbreaker and the Science and Agriculture series Pofis Nos. T144-T157). Suspect pieces must be examined under great magnification, with particular attention to the area close to the stamp where the best quality joining was done. This method was also used to join tabs to commemorative stamps issued in 1937 (Pofis Nos. K287-8) and possibly to other stamps as well. Into this group we must also put stamps with repaired tears, repaired thin spots and so on.



## 6. Forged Watermarks

Forged watermarks are known among the forgeries of the Jubilee issue of 1923 and the Praha stamp (Pofis No. 225z).

## 7. Forged Gum

Great attention must be given to the gum of the stamp. It can be repaired, or with more valuable stamps which had been used, the gum might have been reapplied. Under strong magnification we can find traces of the gum along the edges of an imperforate stamp or in the perforations of the perforated ones. Producers of the counterfeits of the 1923 Jubilee issue also created the decorative gum which is described in the appropriate section. Some denominations of stamps bearing T. G. Masaryk's portrait which were printed on a rotary press have perpendicular ribs of gum about 1 mm wide and 4 mm apart. These ribs were created by the action of the rubber rollers which standardized the paper. These ribs are not always uniformly detectable and on some denominations appear only rarely. This gumming has also been forged.

## Page 13

## 8. Forged cancellations and addition of cancellations

### A. Forged Cancellations

Forged cancellations are used to cancel stamps which are more valuable used than in mint condition. Also stamps, such as bisects and mixed franking, which are very popular among collectors, are treated in this manner. A typical example of this is the cancellation prepared to forge the cancellations of the 1919 Legionnaire stamps. Letters bearing the stamp commemorating the first session of the Carpatho-Ukraine Assembly are also known with forged cancellations.

### B. Fake cancellations

This category consists of genuine stamps which were cancelled with a postal cancellation at a date later than indicated. Both stamp and cancel are genuine. The difference is that some issues are quite rare postally used during their period of validity. This involves such issues as the SO 1920 overprints, Jubilee sheet of 1938, scout letters, air mails and so on.

## Forged Expertization Markings

**Page 14**

The genuineness of more expensive stamps should be attested by an expert or they should bear the guarantee mark of Pofis before they are included in a collection. When making a purchase one should pay attention to the placement of the expertization marking because one position is used on imperforate stamps, another for perforated and so on. In this way we know what type of stamp the expert examined.

**Listing of Expertization Mark Positions****Illustration**

Expertization markings on perfect stamps appear in various positions (depending on whether the stamp is mint, cancelled, imperforate, perforated, etc.), but always on the edge of the stamp. When the stamp is on piece the marking appears immediately next to the stamp. When the stamp is not perfect, the expert places his mark in the same position, but higher in proportion to the degree of damage. Therefore it is not enough when buying or trading a stamp to be satisfied with the expert's mark, but rather one must determine whether the mark is correctly placed.

Because—as we have already mentioned—it happens that cheaper perforated stamps with the perforation cut off are passed off as much more valuable imperforate copies. The forger must make use of the collector's inadequate knowledge to pass off the expertization mark, originally placed on the stamp to indicate a perforated stamp, as proof of the clipped item's genuineness. As soon as the perforations are removed the markings become incorrect, because such a mark on the now altered stamp should be in another position.

Even the expertization marks of experts are forged. These appear on more valuable stamps applied by pen, brush or even forged hand stamp. In questionable cases it is necessary to consult the expert involved or to submit the material to the Expert Committee of the Federation of Czechoslovak Philatelists in Prague.

We illustrate the genuine and forged expertization marks of experts of Czechoslovak stamps, Jan Mrňák and Prof. Eng. Rudolf Gilbert.

**Illustration**

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

# THE PROBLEMS OF SPECIALIZATION AND STUDY IN THE COLLECTING OF CZECHOSLOVAK STAMPS

Ing. Jan Karasek

Translated from Filatelie

If we look back—through the eyes of a collector of Czechoslovak stamps—at the International Stamp Exhibition in Vienna, WIPA 1965—after the pause of more than a year—we may discern some questions and problems which I would like to discuss in detail.

First and foremost, it is a question of number of competing collections, their evaluation and other related problems, namely why, how and what do we collect and also what results—we, collectors of Czechoslovak stamps—might reasonably expect from our participation in the current and foreseeable future international stamp forums.

Let's therefore look back into the recent past to get a clearer picture about the successes of collectors of Czechoslovak stamps in these competitions. Our purpose could be then best served by a review of two such recent international events: the PRAGA 1962 and the WIPA 1965 exhibitions. For our statistical review only the total number of exhibits will be used, excepting the following categories (classes): court of honor exhibits as well as exhibits of young philatelists and philatelic literature.

So, at the PRAGA 1962 Exhibition, there were 1037 exhibits with 39 exhibits in a special ("national") class "Czechoslovakia," and additional 14 exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps and philatelic material from abroad. Thus total of 53 exhibits were devoted exclusively to Czechoslovak stamps at that Exhibition. Percent-wise this amounts to 5.1% of the total exhibits. The breakdown by ownership was as follows: 74% of these exhibits were from Czechoslovakia and 26% from abroad. Although this number of exhibits devoted exclusively to Czechoslovak stamps seems to be quite high for this Exhibition, which, incidentally, was the first international stamp exhibition held in Czechoslovakia since 1938—it is rather low in comparison with the high number of active Czechoslovak philatelists. It should be further pointed out, that out of the total 39 exhibits from Czechoslovakia proper, only 7 exhibits were of high "international" calibre. In fact, it seems to me, that only two of these seven outstanding exhibits really reached the highest standards required for such an international event. Other Czech exhibits (about 15) were just average and the remaining (22) could be classified as mere "selections" from limited collections or "samples" from less interesting fields of Czechoslovak philately, or just mediocre material.

Further, among 14 exhibits of Czech stamps at PRAGA 1962 submitted

Table I

## General evaluation of exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps PRAGA 1962

Medals	Czechoslovak Exhibitors	Foreign Exhibitors	Total
Gold	2	—	2
Gold/Silver	1	—	1
Gold-plated	—	—	—
Silver	4	1	5
Bronze, Silver-plated	8	2	10
Bronze	9	5	14
Diplomas (awards)	15	6	21
Total medals	24	8	32
Total exhibits	39	14	53

from abroad, only one (1) was of above average quality—it gained a silver medal and a special award (citation)—two (2) were “just average,” and the remaining 11 exhibits were all UNDER the standards prescribed by F. I. P. for international exhibitions. (See Table I.)

As to the national origin (and ownership) of these foreign exhibits were concerned, these came from the following countries: Austria 1, Bulgaria 1, Denmark 1, German Federal Republic 2, German Peoples Republic 1, Hungary 3, Sweden 2, USA 2 and USSR 1.

At the WIPA 1965 Exhibition in Vienna, there were 14 exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps, out of which 6 were submitted from Czechoslovakia, 3 from United States, 2 from German Federal Republic, and 2 from Sweden. One additional exhibit from Czechoslovakia was in the Court of honor in non-competing category. The total number of exhibits at WIPA 1965 was 864. Thus percent-wise the Czechoslovak stamp exhibits were 1.5% of the total. For an international exhibition, this is rather a high number, and I believe, the highest one for such participation ever. It is rather complimentary and satisfying that the WIPA selection committee accepted such a high number of Czechoslovak stamp exhibits for the Exhibition.

Now, regarding the evaluation of WIPA 1965 exhibits, 564 out of 864 total of exhibits—therefore some 65% of total—have been awarded in this very hard and demanding competition either medals or citations and diplomas. And out of 13 exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps, no less than 13—full 100 percent—have received medals and other awards! In comparison, PRAGA 1962 results were: out of 1037 competing exhibits, 529 were awarded medals and other diplomas, that is 51% of the total. And out of 53 exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps, 32 received medals, just 60% of total Czech participation. (See table II.)

This comparison tells us about the increasing quality of exhibited Czech stamps and also the increasing level of competence of exhibitors in spite of up-graded standards of selection and judging at these above mentioned exhibitions.

One might then conclude from these results that exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps participating during the last few years at various international exhibitions are gradually gaining their rightful recognition and good positions in these competitions with notable successes as well.

However it should be also noted that no exhibit of Czechoslovak stamps ever gained a gold medal at any international exhibition organized under F. I. P. auspices. So far this recognition has been gained by only two exhibits from Czechoslovakia at PRAGA 1962. And gold or silver medals were awarded only to 3 exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps: one from Czechoslovakia at the 1961 Budapest Exhibition, one from Czechoslovakia at the PRAGA 62 and one from German Federal Republic at WIPA 1965.

**Table II**  
**Evaluation of 13 exhibits of Czech stamps WIPA 1965**

Medals	Exhibitors				Total
	Czechoslovakia	USA	German Fed. Rep.	Sweden	
Gold	—	—	—	—	—
Gold/Silver	—	—	1	—	1
Gold plated	2	—	—	—	2
Silver	3	2	—	—	5
Bronze, Silver pltd.	1	1	1	—	3
Bronze	—	—	—	2	2
<b>Total Medals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>

Considering these facts we should try first to find the correct answer to the question why exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps do not gain the highest honors—in spite of more demanding standards of selection and judging—more frequently. Here we have to cope with a certain lack of knowledge of Czechoslovak Philately among foreign experts. And the composition of award juries leaves one Czechoslovak expert-juror in them mostly isolated and very often without enough time to show, explain and convince other members of a jury about the quality and rarity of competing exhibits of Czechoslovak stamps. However there is a definite hope that this rather knotty problem would be solved in due time.

(Adapted and translated by lhv)

#### NEW YORK BRANCH OCTOBER MEETING

Dr. Reiner-Deutsch brought along a small part of his 1918-20 FP collection which had been exhibited at the Collectors Club evening of the Branch. There were a number of items which he had placed on pages since that evening, especially field posts of the Czech Italian Legion. We had the pleasure of seeing some original documents of the Czechoslovak National Council in New York, dated August 1918 as well as the different original markings on documents of the 23rd Czechoslovak Infantry Regiment (French Legion). The showing consisted of items of the French and Italian Legions, Guards of Freedom and Sokol Units. Needless to say the members were extremely interested in all of it.

### Parade Of New Issues

Edited by Frank Kosik

#### New Commemorative Stamps "Fishes"

On April 22, 1966, the Czechoslovak Post and Telecommunications Administration issued a new attractive series of "FISH":

- 30 h River Trout (*Salmo trutta fario* L.)
- 60 h Perch (*Perca fluviatilis* L.)
- 1.00 Kčs Carp (*Cyprinus carpio* L.)
- 1.20 Kčs Pike (*Esox lucius* L.)
- 1.40 Kčs Grayling (*Thymallus thymallus* L.)
- 1.60 Kčs Eel (*Anguilla anguilla* L.)

Czechoslovakia is a country rich in rivers and lakes. It is no surprise that in these waters one will also find many varied kinds of fish, the best known and most numerous being the Czech carp. And where there are fish there are also fishermen as well as anglers, for whom fishing is great sport and a favorite pastime. That is why the Czechoslovak Angling Association has almost 120,000 members and together with the state fisheries concerns itself with fish breeding, the observation of fishing rules and regulations, sports fishing, building and tending of ponds, water pollution, etc. It is sports angling which prompted this year's issue of six commemorative stamps with fish as their motif, for on September 3-5, 1966, Svit below the Tatras in Slovakia was the scene of the CIPS World Championship in Tournament Casting.

The stamps were printed by offset in several colors. They are the result of the combined efforts of the Polygraphic Enterprise, Bratislava and the Cartographic and Engraving Institute, Bratislava.

Three First Day Covers, printed by recess print at the Post Printing Office in Prague, were issued with the series. They were designed by V. F.



Vingler and engraved by J. Goldschmied.

Vincenc F. Vingler, born in 1911 in Prague, is a sculptor, graduate of Applied Arts. He is dedicated to the creative portrayal of animals and is somewhat of a rarity among artists in that he also paints. His works are known not only in Czechoslovakia but have also been exhibited in Sweden, France, England, the German Democratic Republic, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and China.

V. F. Vingler has for the first time turned his hand to stamp design. The given subject—fish—is very close to his heart for he is an ardent angler and nimrod, and so it can be said that his hand was guided by a thorough knowledge of nature.

#### Prague Castle Series

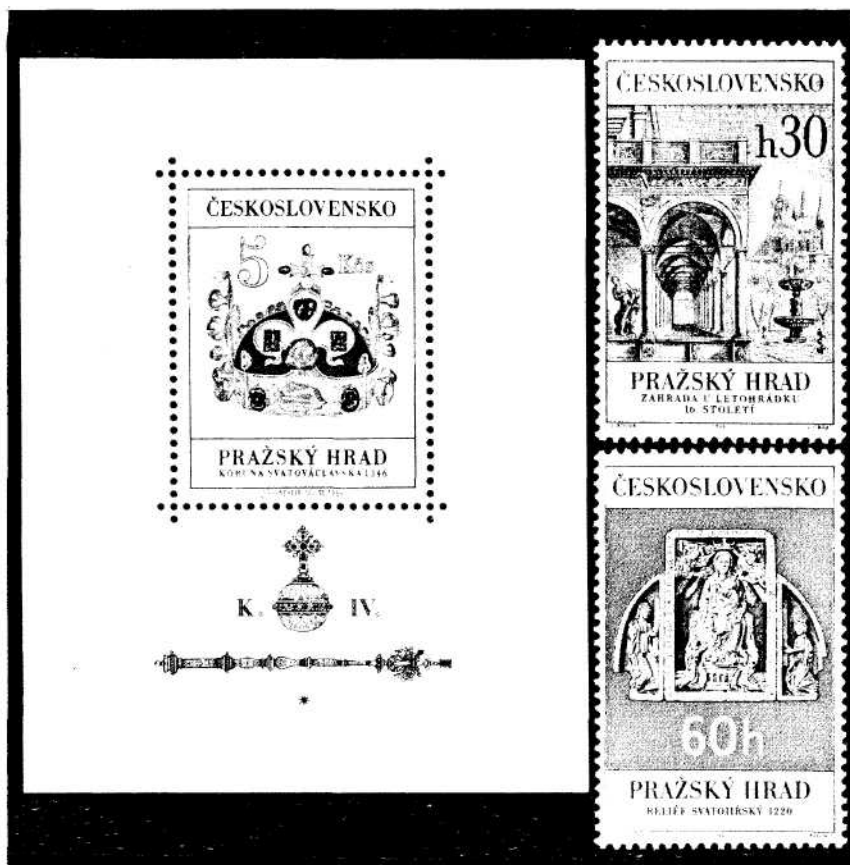
On May 9th, 1966, the Czechoslovak Post and Telecommunications Administration issued a new commemorative series, "Prague Castle.":

Kčs 5. A perforated sheet showing the reproduction of the Saint Wenceslaus Crown with the text "Pražský hrad—Koruna svatováclavská 1346 (Prague Castle—Saint Wenceslaus Crown 1346). Dimensions of the stamp picture are 30x40 mm, those of the sheet 75x97 mm. On the sheet there is also a design of the Coronation Apple and the Sceptre, as well as the initial "K. IV." (Charles IV). The sheet is printed by Flat Plate Printing in five colors: Yellow, blue, green, red and black. One FDC with the design in red and yellow color will be issued with this sheet. Both the sheet and the FDC are designed and engraved by Jiří Švengsbír.

Kčs .30. A stamp showing the summer residence Belvedere (the summer residence of the Queen Ann) and the St. Vitus's Cathedral in the background. Dimensions of the stamp picture are 30x49 mm. The stamp was designed by the Academic Painter Professor Cyril Bouda and engraved by Ladislav Jirka, is printed by rotary recess print in blue color.

Kčs .60. This stamp shows the wooden relief (a part of the St. George's Church decoration on the Prague Castle). The dimensions of the stamp pic-





ture are 30x49 mm. The stamp, designed by Professor Jaroslav Šváb and engraved by Bedřich Housa, is printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in black and ochre colors.

One FDC was issued with these two stamps. It was designed by Prof. Cyril Bouda and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

The stamps were printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague.

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