

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



Official publication of the

Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Recipient of Silver Bronze Diploma Praga 1968

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Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, Editor, P. O. Box 24, Bayside, New York 11361;  
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Vol. XXX

December 1968

No. 288

## NEW POFIS CATALOG 68

This big year of Czechoslovak Philately—the Praga 68 Exhibition and the Fiftieth of the First Czech stamp (Hradčany)—was marked—before the fateful and brutal Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia—by some additional philatelic events. One of them was the publication of Volume I of the definitive Monography of Czechoslovak stamps and another was the appearance of the new Pofis 68 Catalog. Let's say at once that its comparison with previous editions of Pofis catalog is favorable. The new catalog is slightly larger sized book (about two inches higher), printed on a better quality paper than in the past. Due to its larger size, it has only 377 pages against 433 pages of the 1966 Pofis catalog. It includes all Czech stamps up to the 1968 Praga airmail stamps and in addition to all previous special features it also includes one page supplement with all domestic and foreign mail rates in Czechoslovakia from 1918 to 1939 inclusive. Generally, price quotations in the new catalog are 25 to 30 percent higher as compared with the 1966 catalog. Some valuations, especially in the post World War II issues—Praga 1962, national costume series and some souvenir sheets—are even higher. Percentage-wise, many FDC's are also quoted much higher than before.

I think we may also point out some features of Pofis Catalogs which we consider very interesting and attractive for the average stamp collector. First, it is the use of different types and sizes of letters to alert the collector about the relative importance and rarity of each Czech stamp. Thus for example a bold and large type is used for all stamps which—according to the catalog's editors—ought to be included in any general collection of Czechoslovak stamps. The same size but a lighter type letters denote all variations of each particular stamp, which could be added to the general collection. Finally, the small-sized type is used to tell the philatelist that these stamps or their variations belong, and, in fact, should be included in any specialized collection of Czech stamps. A slightly different but similar method is used in pricing of stamps. Quotations in italics mean just an estimated valuation and this is used in case of those Czech stamps which appear on the market only infrequently and for which there is no regular and current price quotation available. Then there are stamps in Pofis Catalog which have no price valuation at all. Just a symbol: -, -, -. This is to remind the catalog's user that the respective stamp with such quotation is so rare that it does not appear on the market at all and consequently it is impossible to establish

any fair price evaluation for it. In case you might be interested, the 1968 Pofis catalog includes in this category practically all the rarest Czech stamps, for example Pošta Československá 4 K light green, granite paper Type I and Type II stamps (Pofis No. 50). Then Pofis No. 51 (10 K purple granite paper Type II stamp) and others like Pofis 155c (Headless Chainbreaker error) Allegories no. 173 a, b (setenants); also airmail no. 6a used and airmail no. 22a. Speaking of airmails, we discovered a glaring "boo-boo" in the description of one stamp of the Praga 68 airmail series. It is No. 60—the 1.60 Kč stamp with the view of U. S. Capitol which the new catalog describes (see page 343) as "The White House, Washington." All in all, the new Pofis catalog represents an advance from the previous ones and should be "a must" for any serious collector of Czechoslovak stamps. We do realize the handicap of the language barrier for non-Czech collectors, but with the help of a good American-Czech dictionary this barrier is not insurmountable. (lhv)

## POSTA MILITARE 52

### CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POSTS: 1918-20

By Bohumil Matejka

(Prague, Czechoslovakia)

Reprinted from The American Philatelist

(Continued from the October issue)

While a truce was being observed in Tešín, the Peace Conference in Paris held negotiations, set a line of demarcation between Poland and Czechoslovakia and established a committee from the Allied powers to settle the dispute by working out a definite solution to the entire Tešín problem.

In the meantime, the Fourth Infantry Brigade was formed in February 1919, which was sent to the Tešín region. Both the Second and Fourth Infantry Brigades were later transferred to Slovakia and the line of demarcation held by new reserve troops from hinterland.

During this conflict there existed no Czechoslovak Field Posts nor Collecting Offices in this area. The only exceptions were the 33, and 35 Battalions of the Italian Legion which were detached near the Slovak border. These dispatched their mail to FP No. 22 through the Sorting Office in Žilina. At all the other units, mail was sent free of postal charges in the manner used in Slovakia until Dec. 31, 1918, i.e., through the civilian post offices. (Fig. 8)

Day's Order No. 1724.2.1919 of the IV Infantry Brigade states: "... regiments will send all private unfranked mail, stamped with their regimental unit stamps directly to the Frýštát post office and not to the Brigade Command ..."

The quoted passage from the above Day's Order clearly shows that mail of the military units stationed at that time in the Tešín region was handled and delivered by the civilian post offices only and was free of postal charges.

**THE ORIGIN OF THE FRENCH LEGION:** This is the first time we meet with Czechoslovak legionnaires from France who were transferred to Czechoslovakia in January 1919. Part of them remained in Prague; the rest sent (at first) to the Tešín region, later to Slovakia.

There were but few Czechs and Slovaks in France during World War I. At the beginning of the war, Aug. 20, 1914, Company "Na Zdar," comprising 350 soldiers, was formed by volunteers from their ranks. It served and fought as a part of the French Foreign Legion.

Later, Aug. 2, 1917, other Czechoslovak volunteers formed the First Infantry Brigade, which consisted of the 21st and 22nd Infantry Regiments. Czech and Slovak volunteers from the United States joined these two regi-

ments as well as the 23rd which was formed later. There were 2,309 volunteers from the United States and these Americans were centered in Amiens. 492 volunteers joined from the Serbian and Montenegro Army; 664 from Italy and 270 from France. Other volunteers kept joining, especially from the P.O.W. camps in Marseilles, Nantes, Valet and Indra. Our French Legion numbered 9,957 volunteers in all.

The training and organization of the brigade was finished in the spring of 1918, whereupon it was sent to the front near Darney (on June 10-12, 1918). This brigade fought near Terron, Arras, Vouziers and Chestris. When this Brigade left Cognac, the 23rd Infantry Regiment of "American Slovaks" began to form and was fully established June 14, 1918. Volunteers of this regiment were mostly Czech and Slovak nationals from the United States. With the addition of the 23rd Infantry Regiment, the First Infantry Brigade grew into a Division. (Figure 7.)



Figure 8. Patriotic card from an Italian Legionnaire sent free of postal charges through civilian post office in Slovakia.

## Parade Of New Issues

Edited by Frank Kosik



"XIXth Olympic Games 1968 in Mexico"

A set of six commemoratives was issued on April 30, 1968. The denominations, colors, and engravers:

- 30h—Black, blue, red-brown; Bedřich Housa
- 40h—Black, yellow, green, violet; Jindra Schmidt
- 60h—Black, red, green, ochre; Josef Herčík
- 1 Kčs—Black, blue, red, green; Jindra Schmidt
- 1.60 Kčs—Black, violet, orange, green; J. Mráček
- 2 Kčs—Black, blue, red, yellow; Josef Herčík

The stamps were designed by Josef Liesler and depict various Olympic events, Mexican art and Prague architecture. All six stamps bear the five interlaced rings that the the symbol of the Olympic Games.

The stamps are printed by rotary recess print combined with multicolor photogravure in sheets of 25—the dimensions of the stamps pictures, 30x49mm.

Three First Day Covers, designed by J. Liesler and engraved by J. Goldschmied were issued with cachets depicting motifs from Mexican art.



**"25th Anniversary of the Battles at Sokolovo"**

On March 8, 1968 the Czechoslovak Post and Telecommunication Administration issued a commemorative stamp titled "25th Anniversary of the Battles at Sokolovo." The stamp, denomination 30h, was designed by Jaroslav Lukavský and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied. It depicts a map showing the battlefields of Sokolovo and the inscription "I. čs prapor—Sokolovo—8. 3. 1943" / 1st Czechoslovak Battalion /. The stamp was printed at the Post Office in Prague by rotary press print combined with photogravure in three colors—dark green, red and blue—in sheets of 50. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 30x23mm.

A First Day Cover, designed by J. Lukavský and engraved by J. Goldschmied, was issued with the stamp. It depicts a group of combatants.



**"International Human Rights Year"**

Issued on March 8, 1968, denomination 1 Kčs, designed by Milan Hegar in accordance with the recommended theme and engraved by Jindra Schmidt. It was printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print in red-brown in sheets of 50. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 23x30 mm.

A First Day Cover, designed by M. Hegar and engraved by J. Goldschmied was issued with the stamp. The cachet depicts the emblem of the Universal Postal Union.



**"Liptovský Mikuláš"**

Issued on March 25, 1968, denomination 30h, was designed by Vincent

Hložík and engraved by Josef Herčík. It depicts the architecture of the town and a portrait of Janko Král the writer. Printed in Prague by rotary recess print in dark green in sheets of 50. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 30x23mm.

A First Day Cover, designed by V. Hložník and engraved by J. Goldschmied was issued with the stamp. It bears motifs of the countryside and the people of Liptov.



#### Cornerstone of the National Theatre

On March 25, 1968 a commemorative stamp dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the National Theater in Prague. The stamp, denomination 30h, was designed by Karel Svolinský and engraved by Ladislav Jirka. The picture is an allegory depicting a girl's head. Printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in red and gold in sheets of 50, dimensions, 23x30mm.

A First Day Cover, engraved by J. Goldschmied and designed by K. Svolinský was issued.

#### POSTAL STATIONERY COLUMN

By Wolfgang Fritzsche

On page 101 (September 1968) we reported the PRAGA aerogram at 1.20 Kcs. There are actually 4 varieties:

The instructions on back in 2 lines of equal length:

language Czech and French

language Slovak and French

The instructions in 1 long and 1 short line:

language Czech and French

language Slovak and French

In June 1968 2 regular postal cards were issued:

30h stamp sepia, view of Praha, legend at lower left in Czech

30h stamp sepia, view of Bratislava, legend in lower left in Slovak.

Sept. 1968, envelope size 175x128 mm, stamp: head of Svoboda, 60h red brown.

Postal cards with privately imprinted cachet at left:

30h brown Novotny, cachet: 1838 1/7 1968 130 let poštovního úřadu MILEVSKO

30h sepia view of Prague, cachet: A. B. SVOJSÍK, 5.IX.1876 — 17.IX.1933 30 výročí úmrtí

Printed to private order:

30h Novotny brown, card of small size 140x98 mm addressed to MOTOTECHNA, národní podnik prodejna, on back a table to fill in an order for spare parts for cars.



Nová Ves	Chmiňanská	Óbars	Starý Tekov
Hmiňanská	Nová Ves	Ober . . .	Horní . . .
Nová Ves Hronská	Hronská Nová Ves	Ober Adersbach	Horní Adrsbach
		Ober Altstadt	Hořejší Staré Město
Nová Ves	Chmiňanská	Ober Baumgarten	Horní Pěna
Chmiňanská	Nová Ves	Ober Dannowitz	Horní Dunajovice
Nová Ves, Křimov-	Křimov-Nová Ves	Oberdorf b. Komotau	Horní Ves u Chomútova
Nová Ves Moravská	Moravská Nová Ves	Ober Einsiedel	Horní Einsidl
		Ober Elefant	Horné Lefantovce
Nová Ves Pečovská	Pečovská Nová Ves	Ober Georgenthal	Horní Jiřetín
		Ober Gerspitz	Brno 19
Nová Ves Spišská	Spišská Nová Ves	Ober Gostitz	Horní Hoštice
Nová Ves Spišská	Spišská Nová Ves	Ober Grund a. d. B. N. B.	Horní Grunt u Varnsdorfu
Kúpele	Kúpele	Ober Grund b. Warningsdorf	Horní Grunt u Varnsdorfu
Nová Ves Sviňská	Chmiňanská Nová Ves	Ober Haid, Bez. Hohenfurth	Horní Dvořiště
Nová Žitva	Nová Ves nad Žitvou	Ober Haid, Bez. Prachatitz	Zbitiny
Nové Dvory	Městské Nové Dvory	Oberhaid-Blum. Hörschlag	Horní Dvořiště-Ces. Heršlák
Novejca Hronská	Hronská Nová Ves	Ober Hennersdorf	Horní Hennersdorf
Novejsa Lakšárska	Lakšárska Nová Ves	Ober Hermsdorf	Horní Heřmanice ve Slezsku
Nové Mesto Kysucké	Nové Mesto nad Kysucou	Ober Hohenelbe	Hořejší Vrchlabí
Nové Mesto Slovenské	Slovenské Nové Mesto	Ober Kreibitz-Schönfeld	Horní Chřibská-Schönfeld
Novosady	Olomouc 11	Ober Langenau	Horní Lanov
Novotny	Novot	Ober Leutensdorf	Horní Litvínov
Nučice, Hořelice-	Hořelice-Nučice	Ober Lindewiese	Horní Lípová
Nürschan	Nýřany	Ober Maxdorf	Horní Maxdorf
Nusle, Vršovice-	Vršovice-Nusle	Ober Moldau	Horní Vltavice
Nusslau	Nosislav	Ober Neugrün	Horní Neugrün
Nýdek	Neydek v Čechách	Obernitz	Obrnice
Nyéresháza	Nerežnice	Obernussdorf	Horné Orešany
Nyitra	Nitra	Oberplan	Horní Planá
Nyitrabajna	Bojna	Ober Polaun	Horní Polubný
Nyitrabánya	Handlová	Ober Politz	Horní Police
Nyitradiavék	Diviaky	Ober Prausnitz	Horní Brusnice
Nyitraegerszeg	Jagersek	Ober Preschkau	Horní Prýsk
Nyitrafő	Gajdel	Ober Rauschenbach	Vvšné Ružbachy
Nyitraivánka	Ivanka pri Nitre	Ober Rochlitz	Horní Roketnice
Nyitrakolos	Klíž Hradište	Ober Rosenthal	Horní Růžodol
Nyitrakoros	Kdušovce	Obersalz	Vyšná Slaná
Nyitraludány	Ludany nad Nitrou	Ober Sedlitz-Krammel	Novosedlice-Kraml
Nyitrano:ák	Nováky	Ober Soor	Horní Zárov
Nyitrapereszlény	Preserany	Ober Stephanau	Horní Štěpánov
Nyitraperjés	Prašice	Ober Tannwald	Horní Tanvald
Nyitrarudnó	Rudno, župa nitrianska	Ober Thomasdorf	Horní Domašov
		Oberufer	Feribý
Nyitraszerdahely	Nitrianska Streda	Ober Wernersdorf	Horní Verneřovice
Nyitraudvarnow	Udvarnok	Ober Widim	Vidim
Nyitraújlak	Ujlok	Ober Wigstein	Horní Vikštejn
Nyitrazsámbokrét	Žabokreky		
Nyustya	Hnúšťa		

Ober Wildgrub	Horní Vildgrub	Orechov	Orechové
Ober Wisternitz	Horní Vistonice	Orešany Horné	Horné Orešany
Ober Wölsdorf	Horní Vlčkovice	Orlik Horný - Vyšný	Vyšný Orlich
Óbesztercze	Stará Bystřica	Örmező	Strážské
Oblas	Oblckovice	Orosvigovo	Rosvigovo
Obřany	Brno 22	Oroszka	Oroska
Obušovce	Kysag-Obišovce	Oroszvé	Rosvigovo
Obyšovce	Kysag-Obišovce	Ořechov Velký	Velký Ořechov
Ócsad	Ošadnica	Osek Velký	Velký Osek
Očová	Velká Očová	Osgyán	Oždany
Očová Velká	Velká Očová	Oschelin	Ošelin
Očváre Velké	Vyšný Olčvár	Oschitz	Osečná
Oderberg	Bohumín	Ostčko, Příkazy	Příkazy-Osičko
Oderfurt	nyní Přívoz	Oskau	Oskava
Odersch	Oldřišov	Oskořinec, Ronov-	Ronov-Oskořinec
Oldrau	Odry	Ossegg	Osek u Duchcova
Oelhütten	Lhotka	Ossegg-Riesenberg	Osek-Risenburk
Oels, Mäh.	Olešnice na Mor.	Ostratice (Velké)	Velké Ostratice
Ogfolderhaid	Jablonec	Ostrava Moravská	Moravská Ostrava
Ógyalla	Stará Ďala	Ostrava Slezská	Slezská Ostrava
Óhaj	Dolný Ohaj	Ostrawa Polska	Slezská Ostrava
Ohaj Dolný	Dolný Ohaj	Ostroh Uherský	Uherský Ostroh
Óhegy	Staré Hory	Ostrovec Horní	Horní Ostrovec
Ohniskany Staré	Staré Ohnišany	Ösvényos	Ochodnica
Ohrensdorf	Střítež, okr. Hranice	Oszada	Osada
Ökörmező	Volovoje	Oszlány	Oslany
Olbersdorf (Böhm.)	Albrechtice	Öszombat	Sobotište
	(p. Lanškroun)	Osztróluka	Ostrá Lúka
Olbersdorf (Schles.)	Albrechtice ve Slez.	Otaslavice Dolní	Dolní Otaslavice
Olbrachcice	Albrechtice, Slez.	Ötátrafüred	Starý Smokovec
Olča Zemianska	Zemianska Olča	Ötösbánya	Koterbach
Olčvár Vyšný	Vyšný Olčvár	Otrokovce Horné	Horné Otrokovce
Oldřichov Dolní	Dolní Oldřichov	Ottendorf	Hadinec ☒
Oldrzychowice	Oldřichovice	Ottendorf b. Braunau	Otovice u Broumova
Oleksovice Velké	Velké Oleksovice	Ottendorf (Schles.)	Otice
Olešnice Zlatá	Zlatá Olešnice	Ottenthal	Ompitál
Olivětín, Broumov-	Broumov-Olivětín	Ottóvölgy	Ompitál
Olivětín, Heřmán-	Heřmánkovice-Olivětín	Ottowitz	Otovice u Karl. Varů
Olka Humenná	Nižná Olka	Ótura	Stará Turá
Olka Vyšná	Nižná Olka	Ousobí, Herálec-	Herálec-Ousobí
Olmütz	Olomouc	Özörény	Hôrka, župa gemerská
Olspitz	Olšovec	Ozorín	Hôrka, župa gemerská
Olšany na dráze Wils.	Olšany-Pačejov	Ozorovce Horné	Horné Ozorovce
Ólubló	Stará Lubovňa		
Ölved	Jastrabice	Pačejov Olšany-	Olšany-Pačejov
Omšená	Omšenné	Paka Nová	Nová Paka
Ondřejov, Beroun-	Beroun-Ondřejov	Paka Stará	Stará Paka
Opatovice Ipelské	Opatovice nad Iplom	Paka Velká	Velká Paka
Opatovice Velké	Velké Opatovice	Palást	Plášťovec
Oravská Polhora	Polhora, župa oravská	Palitz	Palice
Oravský Biely Potok	Biely Potok, župa oravská	Palocsa	Plaveč
		Pálóc	Pavlovce nad Uom
		Palonec	Plavnica
		Palosnagymező	Velké Pely
		Palovce	Pavlovce nad Uhom
		Paludza Malá	Palúdzka



Paludza Velká	Paludza	Petrowitz by Wagstadt	Pustějov
Pályin	Palín	Petrowitz-Seiwedl	Petrovice-
Panita	Poniata		Závidov
Panské Nové Dvory	Městské	Petschau	Bečov nad Teplou
	Nové Dvory	Petzer	Pecr
Papháza	Papín	Pezinok	Pezinec
Papiná	Papín	Pflanzendorf	Drívčice
Parfuss	Bosonohy	Pföhlwies	Velviz
Parchovány	Parchoviany	Pfraumberg	Přimda
Parkán	Parkan	Pial Dolný	Dolný Píal
Parkán-Nána	Parkan-Nána	Piesling	Písečná na Dyji
Parnó	Parchoviany	Pietwald	Petřvald ve Slezsku
Parschnitz	Poříčí u Trutnova	Pihanken	Běhánky
Partschendorf	Bartošovice na Mor.	Fila Jozefova	Turček
Pasovského Chýše	Čerchov	Pilař, Chlumec-	Chlumec-Pilař
Passek Mähr.	Paseka na Mor.	Pilgram	Pelhrimov
Pastúchovo	Pastúchov	Pilnikau	Pilníkov
Paulowitz	Olomouc 8	Pilsen	Plzeň
Paulsdorf Nový	Nový Paulsdorf	Pilsenetz	Plzenec
Pausram	Pouzďřany	Pinke	Benkov
Pavlovice u	Pavlovice u	Piotrowice	Petrovice u Frýštátu
Nezamysloc	Kojetína		ve Slezsku
Pavlovice u Olomouce	Olomouc 8	Pirkenhammer,	Doubí-Pirken-
Pavlovice Velké	Velké Pavlovice	Doubí	hammer
Pazdics	Pazdišovec	Pirnik	Brničko u Unčova
Pčolina	Pšolina	Pirnitz	Brtnice
Pčoline	Pšolina	Pissendorf	Pískov
Pčtolina	Pšolina	Píštany	Pieštany
Pécsújfalu	Pečovská Nová Ves	Pittarn	Pitárná
Pečky Červené	Červené Pečky	Pladen	Blatno u Jesenice
Pekelany	Kecerské Peklany	Plachtince Dolné	Dolné Plachtince
Peklany Kecerské	Kecerské Peklany	Plan	Planá u Tachova
Pelsdorf	Kunčice	Planá Horní	Horní Planá
Pelsöcz	Plešivac	Planá Chodova	Chodova Planá
Pelyvás	Plevník	Pláně Knížecí	Knížecí Pláně
Pěna Horní	Horní Pěna	Planie	Pláně
Perbenyik	Perbeník	Platsch	Plaveč u Znojma
Perecseny	Perečín	Platten	Blatno v Rudohoří
Peredmér	Predmier	Platten bei	Blatno u Karl. Varů
Fernartitz	Bernardice	Karlsbad	
Pernharz	Pernarce	Platten bei	Blatno u Chom-
Peterbaude	Petrova Bouda	Komotau	útova
Péterlak	Petrova Ves	Platz	Místo ☒
Petersburg	Petrohrad	Platz	Stráž nad Nežárkou
Petersdorf	Petrovice	Plauschnitz	Plužná
Petersdorf a. d. Tess	Petrovice na	Plavonica	Plavnica
	Děsné	Pleissnitz	Plešivec
Petersdorf b.	Petrovice u Jindři-	Pleso štrbské	Štrbské Pleso
Henndersdorf Schles.	chova	Plešnice, úlice-	Úlice-Plešnice
Petersdorf b. Trautenau	Petřkovice	Ploschkowitz	Ploškovice
	u Trutn.	Ploschkowitz-	Ploškovice-Býčko-
Peterswald, Böhm.	Petrovice, okr.	Pitschkowitz	vice
	Chabařovice	Plumenau	Plumlov
Peterswald (Schles.)	Petřvald ve	Pobedény	Pobedím
	Slezsku	Počernice Dolní	Dolní Počernice
Petrovice Velké	Velké Petrovice	Počernice Horní	Horní Počernice
Petrov, Sudoměřice-	Sudoměřice-	Počernice, Chvaly-	Chvaly-Počernice
	Petrov		

Podbjel	Podbiel	Foniklá, Přívlaky-	Přívlaky-Poniklá
Podersam	Podbořany	Popovice Velké	Velké Popovice
Podgrodzie	Spišské Podhradie	Poppitz	Popice
Podhradie	Krásnohorské Pod-	Poprád-Velká	Poprad-Velká
Krásnohorské	hradie	Popradné	Papradné
Podhradie	Plavecké Podhradie	Popradno	Papradné
Plavecké		Popradremete	Mníšek nad Poprad.
Podhradie	Povážske Podhradie	Popudín	Popudiny
Povážske		Poreba	Poremba
Podhradie Spišské	Spišské Podhradie	Poroskő	Perečín
Podmoklice, Semily-	Semily-Pod-	Poroszka	Pruské
	moklice	Poroškov	Poroškovo
Podolin	Podolinec	Porstendorf b. Mähr.	Boršov u Mor.
Podolí, Svijany	Svijany-Podolí	Trübau	Třebové
Podol Vápenný	Vápenný Podol	Poruba Horná	Horná Poruba
Podseditz	Podsedice	Poruba Závažná	Závažná Poruba
Pográny	Pogranice	Poříčí Spálené	Spálené Poříčí
Pohl	Polom	Poříčí Velké	Velké Poříčí n. Met.
Pohlig	Poláky	Possitz-Gross	Božice-Křídlovice
Pohorelá železiareň	Pohorelá	Grillowitz	
Pohorellavasgyár	Pohorelá	Possitz-Joslowitz	Božice-Jaro-
Pohrlitz	Pohořelice		slavice
Pochmühl	Bocheň	Postelberg	Postoloprty
Pojdom	Podomí	Postoloprty, Březno-	Březno-Postolo-
Pokau bei Aussig	Bukov u Ústí		prty
	n. L.	Postřekov Starý	Starý Postřekov
Pokrivnica	Koprivnica	Postupice, Jemniště-	Jemniště-
Polana	Poljana		Postupice
Polana Krajná	Krajná Polana	Pöstyén	Pieštany
Polana pri Snine	Velká Polana	Pöstyénfűrdő	Pieštany kúpele
Polana Velká	Velká Polana	Potěhy, Tupadly	Tupadly-Potěhy
Polanka Tatranská	Tatranská Pol-	Potok Bílý	Bílý Potok
	anka	Potscherad	Počeradce
Polany Velké	Velká Polana	Pötschmühle	Pečkovský Mlýn
Pole Královo	Brno 12	Potenstein	Potětýn
Polena	Poljana	Poutnov, Mnichov	Mnichov-Poutnov
Pole Panské	Panské Pole	Povážska Teplička	Teplička pri
Polepp	Polepy		Žiline
Police Horní	Horní Police	Povrly, Neštédice-	Neštédice-Povrly
Polisch	Píla (Tekovská)	Pozdišovce	Pazdišovce
Politz a. d. Elbe	Boletice nad Lab.	Pozsony	Bratislava
Politz-Sandau	Police-Žandov	Posonyalmás	Jablonové
Pollau	Palava	Pozsonybesztercze	Bystrica pri
Pollerskirchen	Ousobí		Bratislave
Polnischleuten	Polská Lutyně	Pozsonyacsakány	Čakaň
Polnisch Ostrau	nyní Slezská	Pozsonyivánka	Ivanka pri
	Ostrava		Bratislave
Poloma Velká	Velká Poloma	Pozsonynádas	Nádaš
Polomka	Polonka	Pozsonypüspöki	Biskupice pri
Polom Pustá	Pustá Polom		Bratislave
Polom Velká	Velká Polom	Pozsonysárfő	Šarfia
Polská Ostrava	Slezská Ostrava	Pozsonyszöllös	Vajnory
Polubny Dolní	Dolní Polubny	Pozsonytaksony	Takšón
Polubny Horní	Horní Polubny	Pozsonyvezekény	Vezekýn
Pomeis	Nepomyšl	Prackendorf	Praková
Pomitsch	Pomyče	Prácsa	Vajnory
Pónik	Pojniky	Prag	Praha

## THE EMISSIONS AND CANCELLATIONS OF SUBCARPATHIAN RUSSIA AND SOUTHERN SLOVAKIA

By Roger Richet (Bourges)

Translated by Ernst M. Cohn (Washington)

(continued from last issue)

### The Hungaro-Czech "Visszatért" Cancels

Five special cancels, shown below, were prepared in Hungary to commemorate the return to Hungary of the Czech territories of subcarpathian Russia and of southern Slovakia, torn away from Czechoslovakia.

All these official cancels carry the name of the town, the year "1938," and the word Visszatért, which is a shout of victory for Hungary's putting its hand on the provinces which it had coveted for a long time, signifying "return to the mother country."

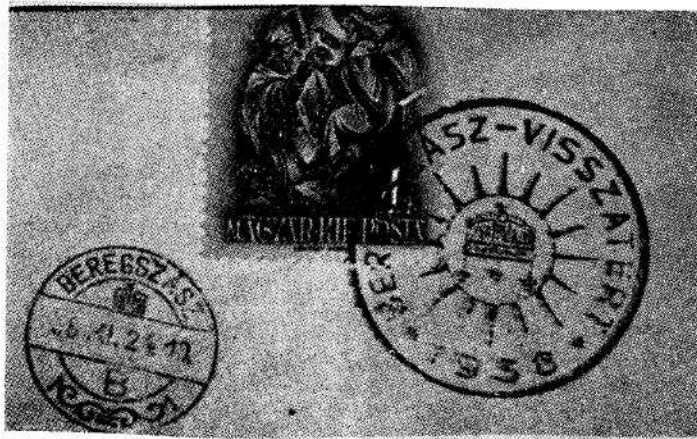
The only cancel different from these was that of Ipolyság, carrying the legend "Az első Visszatért magyar város" 1938 Okt 11, meaning "the first repatriated town."

A well-informed linguist told us that the Hungarian word Visszatért means return home, to the fold, to the mother country, but also implies the idea of a final return without hope of ever leaving again, hence this cry of joy by Hungary upon recovering the districts of Ruthenia and southern Slovakia.

These five cancels are all very jolly, it must be admitted, and such as to fire popular imagination by their artistic character and ornamental decoration.

Furthermore, the Hungarian postman took special and obvious care in using these official cancels. One gets the impression that these cancellations had been prepared in detail for a long time and were not the result of a hasty and sudden decision, because, as we shall see later, some of them were used well before the decision by arbitration at Vienna, for Beregszász and Ipolyság. This clearly shows that the annexation of the districts in question had long been premeditated.

It must be said, to be just and impartial, that that territory of Ruthenia belonged to Hungary from 896 to 1918, that is, for 1022 years. Thus, Hungary considered it just as (France does) Alsace Lorraine, whose return was passionately and ardently desired.





Mixed Frankings

Finally, we note that the official Visszatért cancel was always added on the front of the correspondence, covering the stamps, and often also next to the stamps. The date cancel, always in Hungarian, of course, is sometimes on the front and sometimes on the back of the correspondence.

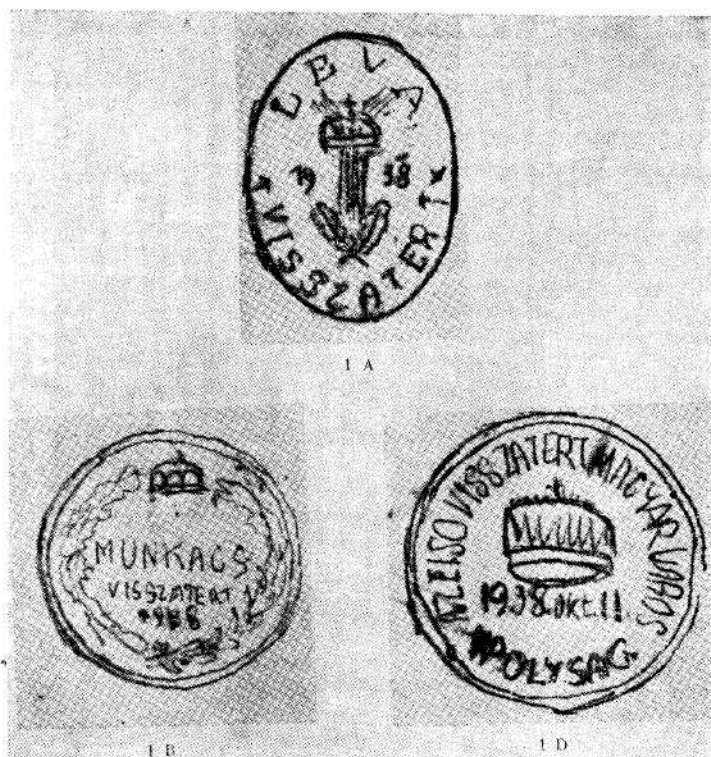
One has the distinct impression that the use of these Visszatért cachets was primarily a question of "orchestration" and propaganda for Hungary, because the Hungarian postmen applied them with obvious satisfaction on everything given to them for cancellation. In effect, we find commemorative cachets carefully applied to simple slips of paper that were not used for correspondence, even on Czech stamps already cancelled and put on bits of paper, on magazine wrappers, etc.

Our good friend Raymond Baudrez (Belgium), the eminent Belgian specialist on obliterations of that period, compiled the following list of towns, now Hungarian or Russian, having had a special cancel that can be found on Czech and Hungarian stamps. They are in subcarpathian Russia and southern Slovakia, the territories annexed by Hungary as a result of the arbitration of Vienna on November 2, 1938:

- A. Beregszász (Berehovo), Ersekujvár (Nové Zámky) Ill. 1.
- B. Léva (Levice), Komárom (Komarno), Losonc (Lučenec), Ungvár (Užhorod), Rozsnyó (Roznava), Rimaszombat (Rimavska Sobota), Dunaszerezhely (Dunajska Streda) Ill. 1a.
- C. Munkács (Mukačevo) Ill. 1 and 1b.
- D. Kassa (Košice), Ill. 1c.
- E. Špolyság (Šahy)

(1) Munkács had two such cancels, absolutely alike in design but differing in dimensions. One, circular, black, 34 mm. external diameter; the other, slightly larger, black or violet, 38 mm.

Kassa had four cancels, two metal ones and two rubber ones. The former two were 35 and 38 mm. in diameter. In the larger one the letters for KASSA and VISSZATÉRT are taller, and the capital K of Kassa has a curved upper stroke. The two rubber cancels were used only on November 11, 1938. The 36 mm. one has a single outer circle, the 38 mm. one a double circle. The impression made by these rubber cancels is much blacker and sharper than that of the metal cancels.



These cancels were used for about two months, from October 9, 1938--and hence before the Vienna agreement--until December 5, 1938.

These various commemorative cancels are known on the following Czech and Hungarian stamps of this period:

**Czech stamps** (Yvert Nos.): 252 to 256, 298, 299 to 301, 308 to 310, 320, 320A, 327 to 329, 332 to 346.

**Hungarian stamps:** 416 to 419, 449 to 460, 490 to 505, 513 to 518.

They are also found on covers, but very rarely, with mixed franking by Czech and Hungarian stamps.

Our collection contains a Visszatért cancel without stamp. This is a free-frank piece mailed by a Czech soldier stationed at Kassa when the town was occupied by the Hungarians.

We also have a Czech military correspondence card, also without stamp, with the Visszatért cancel of Munkacs and the date cancel of November 12, 1938. These two pieces are curious, because these towns were already occupied by Hungarian troops, as we shall see.

Here are the "first dates" that we have been able to establish for these various commemorative cancels:

October 9, 1938 — Beregszász

Oct. 11 — Ipolyság

Nov. 8 — Komárom

Nov. 10 — Csörgő (Čergov), Kassa, Losoncz, Munkács, Érsekújvár, Rimas-zombat

Nov. 14 — Léva, Dunaszerdaely

Nov. 16 — Ungvár



To date, there is no documentation to indicate the last days of use for each of these commemorative cancels.

We must mention a final Visszatért cancel that of Kassa (Košice, Slovakia) of November 12, 1943, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of its incorporation in Hungary. It carries the legend: "1938 november 11 — Kassa Hazatért — 12.XI.1943 — Cassovia Bélyegkiállítás," surrounding the coat of arms of Kassa. That was also the occasion for issuing a souvenir card in blue and red, franked with Hungarian stamps, of course, and obliterated with that cachet.

On the left, this card shows an enlarged reproduction of the coat of arms of Kassa, with a legend above and below mentioning the return of Kassa to Hungary on November 11, 1938.

To close this chapter, we mention that only the three towns of Berehovo (Beregszász), Mukačevo (Munkács), and Užhorod (Ungvár) belonged to subcarpathian Russia properly. All other towns using the Visszatért cancel belonged to various southern Slovakian districts.

Without going into details, we indicate that other Visszatért cancels exist from November 1940, when Roumanian towns were annexed to Hungary as a result of the last world war.

Finally, the Visszatért cancel was used in May 1941, when Hungary annexed Yugoslav towns.

These cancels were used the same way as the Hungaro-Czech Visszatért cancels.

(to be continued)



## EDITORIAL

We must describe the fine job done by Member Hahn and his co-workers in Washington in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Czechoslovak Republic. We drove there and enjoyed the beautiful philatelic display assembled by Mr. Hahn and Dr. Fischmeister at the Wilson House. We also saw the fascinating documents including the original declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia by Masaryk which was sent to President Wilson and a number of other papers signed by Beneš, Štefanik and leaders of other countries as well as the declaration of the heads of other states regarding their desire to become independent. On Saturday evening we attended a meeting at the home of chairman Hahn of the Branch and the next morning we left for New York. On the 26th of October the New York Branch held its exhibition at the Collectors Club which was quite well attended and even Herbert Block dropped in to see the material. We received word from our president of the special exhibition held by the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America and that also was quite successful.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. Richard J. Boucek, 1 Wilson Drive, Ben Avon Hts., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15202

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Your dues are payable in the amount of \$5.00 to our treasurer, Thomas Meeks, 532 West 145th Street, New York, N. Y. 10031. Please send your check promptly. Of course our Specialist will continue to appear every month regardless of all the deplorable activities of individuals who are "interested only in stamp collecting and not in politics."

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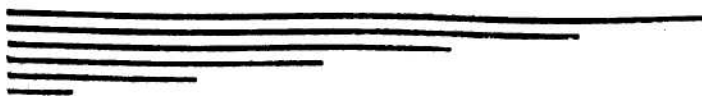
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