

THE CZECHOSLOVAK Specialist

Official Monthly Journal of the



Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

Silver Award — INTERPHIL '76

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXVIII

June 1976

No. 6, Whole No. 361

The Urban Import Foodstuffs Tax of Czechoslovakia

By William Ittel, SCP

It may be news to some that the Czechoslovak Republic issued fiscal stamps for at least forty specific uses.* This is really not surprising if one considers that the republic evolved from the Austrian empire, an administrative bureaucracy that had extensive experience in stamp duties! One will find the Czechs adopting many of the special-purpose Austrian types of revenues: tobacco, playing card closures, sweeteners, to name a few. But we also find the Czechs promulgating a tax that had no precursor in Austria—the Urban Import Foodstuffs Tax.

This duty on food entering the three major cities of Praha, Brno and Bratislava was reportedly devised to protect the urban food wholesalers and retailers against the practice of the citizenry visiting the countryside to pick up food, possibly from relatives, at substantially lower prices than in the big city. But regardless of the report, we must assume the avoidance of local taxes was the main reason for the urban import food tax.

Checkpoints were established in the three cities where the tax was collected in cash against incoming foods. Foodstuffs forwarded through the mails, apparently a common practice, were subject to the tax which was collected by the delivering postoffices through the use of revenue stamps, that is to say special revenue stamps for that purpose. Whether the funds so collected ever filtered down to the local level we do not know, but assume not.

By postal regulation, the urban import tax stamps, which were in a double-format, were ordered to be placed on the verso of the parcel card with one half of the stamp to be on each of the two parts of the card. When the card was torn in two, the tax stamp was thereby torn and effectively cancelled. It is obvious that this regulation was not always followed since one can infrequently find such a card with the whole stamp affixed and neatly cancelled with the postal canceller!

Parcels of food were taxed at 1, 2 and 3 Kč for parcels of 5, 15 and 25 Kg. respectively. A postal directive effective March 1, 1925 provided for two values of these revenues to collect the tax: 1 Kč and 2 Kč. These were speedily prepared by overprinting a demonitized Mucha-design postage due, the 250h. orange. The revenues were perforated 13½; the Dues had been imperforate. The overprint read "Paušalovaná potravní daň" (Lump sum Foodstuffs tax) and carried a new value, twice in the overprint. The overprint

*See also: Ješetický, J., Czechoslovak Specialist, May 1959.

was in the deep metallic blue found on the other postal provisionals of that day.

A new supply of the 1 Kč value was needed by January, and this was provided by overprinting the 500h green in the same way. However, that stamp had not yet been demonitized! Later, in July, the same stamp was overprinted to create a new supply of the 2 Kč value. These, too, were eventually used up and in 1929 the first issue 25h olive postage due was overprinted 1 Kč and later, in 1930, with 2 Kč. All were perforated. (Fig. 1.)

At that point, in 1930, a definitive foodstuffs tax stamp was designed, produced and issued. It was an engraved stamp. The overprinted provisionals also continued in use until the first of March, 1932. The new design was in the same two values, 1 Kč and 2 Kč. The latter was not actually used until early in 1932. (Fig. 2.) The new design was 30x20 mm. Sometime between 1932 and 1939, this same design came out in a slightly larger size (30x21 mm vs 30x20 mm) but the spacing between clichés in the plate was increased. The new stamp's total size was now 37x28 mm, increased from the old 34x24 mm.

(To be continued)

Max Mahr Wins Large Gold At Interphil '76

Reigning over a field of eight collections of Czechoslovakia exhibited at INTERPHIL '76, the fabulous nine frame showing of rarities by Mr. Max Mahr of Germany (BDR) easily won the acclaim of Interphil's tough international jury which included Ing. Ladislav Dvořáček, Czechoslovakia's commissioner and society (SVAZ) head.

Described in the Interphil Catalogue simply as "ČSR. Pages from a specialized collection," the exhibit leaned heavily toward the rare PČ 1919 issues, though other areas of rarity, such as the overprinted Scout issues and others were also represented. Having previously won some of the highest international awards, including a Large Gold at Praga '68, the exhibit was not shown competitively for some time prior to Interphil.

Shown below emerging from the SOCIETY's banquet, accompanied by Ing. Dvořáček and friends, the charming Mahrs do not appear at all concerned over the dangerous U. S. outflow of Gold.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

A.P.S. Unit 18, S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXVIII

June 1976

No. 6, Whole No. 361

Published monthly except July and August — \$7.50 per year

Second Class Postage Paid at Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Office of Publication, 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kansas 66044

President and Editor (acting), H. Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor La., Fairfax, VA 22030

Vice Pres. and Circuit Mgr., W. Fritzsche, P. O. Box 8, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Secretary, E. Lisy, 87 Carmita Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070

Treasurer, H. Samek, Jr., 138 Burlington Ave., Paterson, NJ 07502

Librarian, J. T. Carrigan, 12448 Over Ridge Rd., Potomac, MD 20854

Expertizing Chairman, Dr. L. V. Fischmeister, VA Hosp., Augusta, GA 30904

Editorial Board: C. R. Collins, R. M. Major, J. F. McKeown, Wm. Schoenig

Managing Editor Harlan W. Miller

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kans. 66044



(Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Mahr, Ing. L. Dvořáček)

Fortunately, at least some of the silver is still with us. Reviewing briefly the other exhibits in order of their frame number listing, Mr. Jaroslav J. Verner presented a 7 frame showing of postal history, Siberian Field Post covers, rarities, overprint types, proofs, errors, essays and designer drawings for which he was awarded a Vermiel with special award 17 (framed painting reproduction by the Australian Philatelic Bureau). Mr. Verner's exhibit included the finest in Siberian Legion items as well as a strong showing of "Posta" and other rarities.

This exhibit was followed by Henry Hahn's 6-frame showing of post World War I issues, PČ 1919, local issues, field posts, varieties and some post-WW II items, for which he received a Silver Award.

Mrs. Kay Goodman of Great Britain presented a 4-frame exhibit entitled "Czechoslovakia Field Post Office in Siberia" which included essays, proofs and varieties of the silhouette issue as well as the "Lion" issue and covers. Seen in the U. S. for the first time, this exhibit received a Bronze Award.

The 6-frame exhibit by Charles Chesloe included forerunners, Scout and Siberian posts, regular, air, newspaper and semi-postal issues. The exhibit was rich in PČ 1919 and other rarities, including the "50/50" Postage Due. The exhibit received a Vermeil Award.

The finest Hradčany appearing at Interphil were in the exhibit of Jaroslav Kračil of Switzerland. The exhibit was rich in varieties and demonstrated extensive research. It received a Large Silver Award.

Another specialized exhibit was that of Clarence Pearce, who presented a 4-frame showing of his highly specialized "Agriculture and Science Issues of Czechoslovakia," for which he received a Silver Award.

The end of "Czecho Row" was elegantly manned by Gösta Hedbom of Sweden, who presented a seven frame showing of provisional issues, overprint types, proofs, essays, color and printing trials. Mr. Hedbom was awarded a Vermiel Award.

Competing in the Literature Class, THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST, Vol. XXXVII of 1975, received a Silver Award. The staff of the SPECIALIST in 1975 included Henry Hahn—Editor, Harlan W. Miller—Managing Editor, and the following members of the Editorial Board: Charles R. Collins, Richard Gray, Yvonne King, William Schoenig and Tod Stromquist.

Unfortunately, the world-renowned collections (from Czechoslovakia) of Messrs. Kvasnička, Kovař, Buchta and others were not exhibited. The reason

for their absence is currently not known.

At least one other member of our Society exhibited, though not Czechoslovakia. That was Dr. L. V. Fischmeister. He showed 7 frames of early Austria and received a Vermiel Award.

Seminar, Auction, Convention and Banquet Fill eScond Interphil Weekend

Those SOCIETY members spending only the second weekend at INTERPHIL may indeed not have found much time to see the 300-frame exhibit or stop at one of the many dealer, government or society lounges—not to speak of the long lines emanating from the USPS, the fabulous array of "Aristocrats of Philately," the give-aways, and other time consuming activities.

The SOCIETY's official schedule of activities began at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 5th with a seminar entitled "Misconceptions in Czecho Philately." The program was chaired by Dominick Riccio and included four brief presentations, followed by audience participation. The speakers included Messrs. Riccio (on Carpatho-Ukraine), Hahn (on spiral types of the first and second Air Mail issues), Verner (on Siberian covers) and Hedbom (on 1918 Revolutionary overprints). The seminar was well prepared and presented by the speakers, though, as usual in such seminars, there was not sufficient time to permit relaxed airing of divergent views.

The SOCIETY's Hospitality Suite at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel was open from noon on, to permit viewing of lots prior to the start of the SOCIETY's official auction by Vaclav Vanik. The auction of lots listed in the May issue of the SPECIALIST proceeded smoothly and efficiently under the trained



Left to right: Messrs Vondra, Vanik, Mahr, Pearce, Mrs. Hahn, Mr. and Mrs. Austin, Fischmeister, Jura, Verner, Hedbom and Mrs. Vondra

eye and hand of auctioneer Vanik. Active floor bidding took place on about half the lots, while the other half was won by mail bidders. As an extra bonus, a beautiful early flight cover, purportedly from Czechoslovakia's second commercial flight carrying mail, was added to the auction. The successful bidder was Mr. Max Mahr. The informal scene shown depicts some of the successful bidders checking out their lots after the auction.

The auction was followed by some liquid refreshments, at which time the SOCIETY hosted Ing. Ladislav Dvořáček, Chairman of the ČSSR Society of Philatelists (SVAZ) and member of the INTERPHIL jury. In lively discussion (both English and Czech), Ing. Dvořáček discussed what should and should not be exhibited at international shows, which was particularly helpful to those with an advance eye on the PRAGA '78 show.

The SOCIETY's Board meeting, chaired by Henry Hahn, took place at 9 a.m. on Sunday, June 6th. With eight (8) directors present, (Blizil, Fischmeister, Fritzsche, Hahn, Koplowitz, Samek, Verner and Vondra), it was the best attended Board meeting since incorporation. Much was accomplished, as the meeting plowed through (and resolved) the many questions and problems on its crowded agenda. Highlights included holding the SOCIETY's 1977 Convention and Show at BALPEX, official participation in PRAGA '78, appointment of Mrs. Jane Sterba Editor of the SPECIALIST beginning with the September issue, and presentation and approval of the SOCIETY's budget.

The Board meeting was followed by the SOCIETY's open Convention, at which the major Board actions were announced and the SOCIETY's Officers and Committee Chairmen presented their reports.

The SOCIETY's banquet took place at 1 p.m. at the Alpha Club. This affair, chaired by George Koplowitz, represented the wind-up of a wonderful and memorable weekend of philatelic activity. Ing. Dvořáček, in a brief address, conveyed the greetings of his country and presented some advance facts on Praga '78. The attendees were presented with a lovely souvenir cover (FDC of the Bratislava Tapestries issue), Czech society and exhibit pins, and a copy of Monografie XIII was presented to our library. The banquet was also addressed briefly by member J. J. Matejka and SOCIETY President Henry Hahn.

As the well fed and happy crowd gathered for good-byes outside the Alpha Club, our photographer (Jeff Hahn) snapped this one last picture to help recall that frantic but marvelous experience that was INTERPHIL '76.



From the President's Stock Book

By Henry Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor Lane, Fairfax, VA 22020

INTERPHIL '76 has come and gone. Our feet are rested from its miles of magnificent aisles, our frustrations have faded and we have forgiven both the organizers and the USPS for the long lines which consumed too much of the precious time we could afford to spend at INTERPHIL. However, I must confess that at least one of those long waits—the one to have a sweet young USPS clerk apply the Bicentennial Day post mark to our covers—was nearly worth it for the chuckle. She looked at the cover—which was franked with the 4c and 8c "Champions of Liberty" Masaryks plus 1c Jefferson—her eyebrows rose, her forehead wrinkled as she announced: "Sir, we do not cancel foreign stamps!" Paying no heed to my protestations that these are indeed U. S. stamps—it took a lengthy consultation with her superior to finally settle the problem—in our favor, thank goodness.

Organizing for our SOCIETY's participation in INTERPHIL took quite a bit of work. This work was shared by many, each responding generously to my many calls for help. The first to get the "call" was Olech Wyslowsky, who designed our beautiful cover and cancel. Special thanks go to our seminar participants and chairman Dom Riccio. Vaclav Vanik "made" the afternoon for us with his terrific auction, and George Koplowitz did a great job arranging our banquet at the Alpha Club, which Mirko Vondra "discovered" for us. Special thanks go to Dick Major who helped get the lounge going and for handling the cover sales. I don't know who all took a turn in our lounge—but to all of you, many thanks for a job well done. The heroine of the week was no doubt Jane Sterba, who arrived from Chicago, laden with a magnificent cut-crystal vase (which will serve as our Grand Award at BALPEX '77), and a lovely centerpiece of flowers for our hospitality suite and banquet. Jane not only spent the greatest share of time in our lounge but also took upon herself the chore of having our covers canceled nearly every day of the show. Of course behind every heroine there stands a hero, and he could be no other than her husband Joe.

To all of you good sports—named and nameless—let your reward be a comment by one of the members of the Hellenic Philatelic Society, with whom we shared our lounge. He said: "...compared to us, you must be a large society, ... with all this organization and activity, the covers, special cancel and literature to sell...." I didn't have the heart to tell him that we are about the same size—we only ACT bigger.

Turning for a moment to my past and recent (temporary) role as Editor, I'd like to express my thanks to the 1975 Editorial Board, authors, translators and our Managing Editor, Harlan Miller, for their part in winning the Silver Award for the SPECIALIST at INTERPHIL. As I pass this fine team to Jane Sterba, our new Editor, I wish her and those who will be part of HER team much success, and may she enjoy the job of editing as much as I have.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1130 Dr. Anthony S. Kalina, 1286 Threau Road, Lakewood, Cleveland, Ohio 44107
- 1131 George E. Smith, 1125 15th Str., N. W. Room 803, Washington, D. C. 20005
- 1132 Leonard M. Dobrin, 7 Bayberry Dr., Plainview, N. Y. 11803
- 1133 Richard A. Weinstein, 700 - 7th St. S. W. #110, Washington, D. C. 20024

The Issues, Surcharges, Cancellations and Vignettes of the Sudetenland (1880-1970)

By Roger Richet, SCP — Translated by Anne Vondra

Note: The original French edition of the book contains some 300 illustrations which greatly enhance the enjoyment and understanding of this unillustrated, serialized translation. Serious students of this topic are urged to purchase the original, paper bound French edition from the SOCIETY. Please see advertisement appearing frequently in the SPECIALIST.

The Hohenstadt Issue

Hohenstadt (Zabreh) is a little town of 4,000 inhabitants in northern Moravia on the Sazava, a tributary of the Morava River, and noted for its metallurgical and textile industries.

It was annexed by the Reich in 1938 and, when the Germans retreated in 1945, they took away with them all the German postal materials: postal stationery, stamps, etc. with the exception of a box of a few dozen pieces of postal stationery with the 6 pf. lilac Hitler portrait and a few stamps, including Yvert no. 814 (600th anniversary of the autonomy of Oldenbourg), Yvert no. 706 (Hitler, 3 pf. bistre brown) and no. 779 (Work Army, 5+10 pf. green) which had been forgotten in the cash drawer of the post office.

(Picture)

When the town was liberated, the postmaster, having been left with no franking equipment because of its removal by the Germans, took it upon himself to have a local printer overprint the few postal items, stationery and stamps, left behind by the Germans. This, of course, explains the high value of these items, which are so rare.

The Hohenstadt overprint is a very simple one, consisting of three medium-thick letters, "Č S R" close together, each 7 mm. high and 4 mm. wide; total width of the overprint is 13½ mm. The letters have a thickness of about 1 mm.

Given the small number of items overprinted, this Hohenstadt issue was the only one, and appeared the same on the stamps as on the stationery. Of course, mail franked with the stamps of this issue was cancelled with a "mute" canceller of the Zabreh post office, which is to say that it bore no place name, as the Czech name of the town had been erased by the Germans in 1938, and the German name in its turn was erased at the Liberation on May 5, 1945.

This Liberation issue of Hohenstadt is another little known and much sought-after item among all the Sudeten Liberation issues.

The stamps of this issue can be found on bona-fide postal items up to May 22, 1945.

The Kaplitz Issue

Kaplitz (Kaplice) is a small town of 2,200 population in southern Bohemia, south of Budejovice, and the district center, which was occupied by the Germans on October 1, 1938. It is known for the manufacture of starch and of cotton cloth.

Upon Liberation in May, 1945, Kaplitz overprinted the Hitler stamps then current (705-716) with the three letters Č S R, arranged in a triangle, stamped on by hand.

(Picture)

The three letters are medium-thick capitals 4.5 mm high. The overprint was applied by hand in black or red, with the result that there are two complete series of the overprint, the one applied in black and the other in red. Although the Kaplitz overprint was done with a hand-stamp, it was applied with such great care that it looks almost like a typographic overprint.

The Katharein Overprint

Katharein (Katerinky u Opavy) is a small city of 7,000 population, famous for its baths, located in northeastern Bohemia in Western Silesia, near Opava. At that time the population was 76% German. It was liberated on May 5, 1945 by Russian troops.

To commemorate the Liberation, Hitler stamps, then in use, were given a black typographic overprint, composed of the letters Č S, as shown below.

(Pictures)

This overprint consists of the date "1945" on the top line followed by the letters "Č S" below, and measures 13½ mm. high and 13 mm. wide. The letters are 2 mm. thick. Below the letters, two thin bars 17½ mm. long serve to cross out the word "Deutsches Reich."

The same overprint was used on the various sizes of Hitler stamps; the only difference is in the space between the bars and the letters "Č S", which depended on the size of the base stamp. This overprint appeared on all the Hitler stamps (Yvert 705 to 726).

The Marienbad Issue

Marienbad (Marianské-Lazné) is a town of 7,000 inhabitants in western Bohemia near the German border, a tourist mecca, famous as a spa. When it was liberated by American troops in May, 1945, the postmaster had the five Hitler stamps, which he had in quantity, overprinted with a black typographic overprint, applied vertically, but slanting slightly towards the left. It consists of six wavy lines 22 mm. high and three lines of text in thin letters, which measure 18 mm. high altogether: "Svobodné / MAR. LAZNE / 1945," which means "Liberated / Mariánské-Lazné / 1945."

(Picture)

The five values which were overprinted like this are:

- 6 pf. violet (Yvert no. 709)
- 8 pf. red-orange (no. 710)
- 12 pf. carmine red (no. 710b)
- 20 pf. light blue (no. 715)
- 30 pf. olive green (no. 718)

The precise number of stamps issued is not known but it must have been very small.

Cancelled covers, bearing stamps of this issue, are especially rare. The stamp pictured above has a "mute" cancellation, as all the cancellers from the beginning of the Nazi occupation of the Sudetenland had only the German names, and these were immediately erased by the Czechs upon Liberation as if to wipe out the memory of seven years of Nazi occupation.

The Three Liberation Series of Rokitznitz

Rokitnitz (Rokytnice or Horní Rokytnice) is a small town of 6,000 inhabitants, in the Giants' Mountains, on the river Jizera, a tributary of the Elbe, in the north of Bohemia. It is 30 kilometers from Gablonz (Jablonec) and about 15 kilometers from the old Prussian-Silesian border.

Rokitnitz, a well-known mountain resort, prospers from its manufacture of cloth and of wood pulp, which is a product of the neighboring forests. In 1938 the town had a large German majority, as only about 15% of the population were Czech.

It was to this little town in particular that the Germans retreated after Prague was taken by the American army on May 5, 1945, and here they awaited the capitulation of May 8 and the total defeat of the Reich.

It is not surprising, therefore, that a considerable supply of German stamps was to be found at Rokitnitz, even the higher values, which the Germans were forced to leave behind, and which formed the basis for numerous Liberation issues, which we are about to describe in detail.

In short, the town of Rokitnitz issued three different Liberation series of black typographic overprints on stamps of the Hitler regime.

First series:

The overprint consists of a four line legend: "Česko / Slovenska / Pošta / 5.V.1945" in capital letters 2 mm. high. The three first lines are each 2 mm. apart, while the date of Liberation covers the name "Deutsches Reich" at the bottom of the stamp. The entire Hitler series (Yvert nos. 705 to 720 and 811) received this overprint.

Some overprints appear on the backs of the stamps, but this was just a printing error, and very rare, for this issue seems to have been produced with the utmost care.

(Pictures)

Second series:

The overprint consists of letters 2 mm. high like the first. It is positioned on three lines, the first in capitals and the second and third in small letters: "ČS POŠTA / Pravda / vítězí" which translates: Czechoslovak Postage, truth prevails. At the bottom of the stamp the words "Deutsches Reich" are covered by a guilloche of short vertical lines 2 mm. high and 17 mm. long.

This series includes the Hitler stamps (Yvert 705 to 721 and 811) as well as franchise stamps (116 to 126) including the color varieties of no. 117 (3 pf. yellow-brown and 3 pf. red-brown).

Third series:

The overprint in this series consists of the legend "Č S POŠTA" all in caps 2 mm. high at the top of the stamp and a surcharge showing a change in value in the center; at the bottom is the same guilloche found in the second series to cover up the name "Deutsches Reich."

These are the Hitler stamps re-valued for this series:

- 1.50 (Kčs) on 15 (pf.) brown lilac (713)
- 2 (Kčs) on 20 (pf.) light blue (715)
- 2.40 (Kčs) on 24 (pf.) yellow-brown (716)
- 2.50 (Kčs) on 25 (pf.) ultramarine (717)
- 3 (Kčs) on 30 (pf.) olive (718)
- 4.20 (Kčs) on 42 (pf.) emerald green (811)
- 5 (Kčs) on 50 (pf.) dark green (720)

The new value is bracketed on each side by a plus sign (+).

The three black typographic overprints of this issue were beautifully executed and were a credit to the little town of Rokytnice. The overprint is the same for each type, regardless of the size of the base stamp; only the spacing of the lines of the overprint varies with the size of the stamps.

The Rumburg Issue

The city of Rumburg (Rumburk) was liberated by the Allies at the beginning of May, 1945.

To commemorate the return of Rumburg to the Czech nation, the Liberation Committee and local officials had a black typographic overprint applied to all the Hitler stamps (Yvert 705 to 726 and 811). This was on four lines in thick letters 3 mm. high: "ČSR / Narodni / Vybor / Rumburk," which

may be translated: "Czechoslovak Republic—Municipal Administration of Rumburk." This overprint is 18 mm. high and 15 mm. wide.

(Picture)

We cannot say how many of these overprints were issued, but it could not have been very many. Stamps on cover are very rare and real collector's items.

The indisputable official character of this issue seems to be clearly established by the wording of the overprint.

There were two types of this overprint, the dimensions of which were the same, regardless of the size of the base stamp.

First type:

The letter Y, of the third line of the overprint, in the word "Vybor," displays an elegant little curve at the bottom of the letter, turning to the left:

1. 1 p. black (Yvert 705)
2. 3 p. yellow-brown (706)
3. 4 p. slate-blue (707)
4. 5 p. grey-green (708)
5. 6 p. purple-violet (709)
6. 8 p. red-orange (710)
7. 10 p. chestnut (710a)
8. 12 p. carmine-red (710b)
9. 15 p. lilac-brown (713)
10. 16 p. blue-green (714)
11. 20 p. light-blue (715)
12. 24 p. yellow-brown (716)
13. 60 p. lilac-brown (721)
14. 80 p. slate (722)
15. 1 M. dark olive-green (723)

(Pictures)

Second type:

The letter Y of the same word, "Vybor," is absolutely straight in its lower stroke.

16. 25 p. ultramarine (717)
17. 30 p. olive-green (718)
18. 40 p. rose-lilac (719)
19. 42 p. jade-green (811)
20. 50 p. dark green (720)
21. 60 p. brown-lilac (721)
22. 80 p. slate (722)
23. 1 M. black-olive-green (723)
24. 2 M. dark violet (724)
25. 3 M. carmine (725)
26. 5 M. dark blue (726)

In Type I there is a distinct variety which is easy to recognize: There is a slight difference in the alignment of the second line "Narodni" with the first line "Č S R".

Whereas in Type II, as also in Type II, the letter "d" of Narodni is lined up exactly under the letter "R" of the first line, in the variety the "d" of Narodni is about a millimeter to the right of the perpendicular from the "R" of the first line.

There are quite a few broken or bevelled letters in the Rumburg overprints. Some are really quite obvious, as in no. 4 (5 p. grey-green) in which the upper part of the "d" in Narodni is completely cut off. Many letters are closed up.

(to be continued)

Official Society Cachet Nearly Sold Out

The SOCIETY's first official cachet went on sale at the Society's INTERPHIL lounge only minutes after the opening of the show--and, along with our various publications, sold like "hot-cakes."

Getting ready to check the fat cigar-box till (see below) which at this particular moment was manned by Miss Anita Hahn are (from left to right) Dick Major, Jeff Hahn, Henry Hahn, Jerry Verner, George Blizil and Albert Jura.



Other SOCIETY sweethearts manning the booth throughout the week, while we "combed" the dealers and drooled over the exhibits, included Jane Sterba, Betty Nemecek, Judy Carrigan and other unsung heroines, who dispensed our SOCIETY's special cancel, gave information about our SOCIETY, sold covers, books, old issues of the SPECIALIST, and banquet tickets.

Having underestimated the market for our literature and the public's interest in our particular collecting area, we eventually ran out of more than half the literature items that were being sold. These include the three Roger Richet books (Sudetenland, Siberia and Carpatho-Ukraine), the Novotny Handbook and the Bohemia-Moravia Handbook. (New stock will be available in the fall.)

Sale of our lovely cachet covers, designed by Olech W. Wyslowsky, was further aided by the fact that a different official INTERPHIL cancellation was issued on each of the 9 days of the show. Four hundred of the covers were franked with the 4c and 8c T. G. Masaryk 1960 "Champions of Liberty" stamps, and an approximately equal number with the 13c INTERPHIL stamp. The nine (9) INTERPHIL '76 Special Cancellations include:

1. Bicentennial Day; 2. Federation Day; 3. Patriot's Day; 4. International Day; 5. Dealers' Day; 6. Collectors' Day; 7. Specialists' Day; 8. Societies' Day; and 9. Writers' Day.

Unfortunately, we no longer have available for sale the entire set of 9

cancellations with ONLY the Masaryk OR the INTERPHIL stamps. Only a very few complete sets of the cancellations are available, but without choice of stamp. These may still be ordered at 3 covers for \$2, or \$6 for the set, from: Richard Major, P. O. Box 4074, Arlington, VA 22204.

Those not ordering the complete set may order individual cancellations—but please give a second or even third choice. We suggest you order as fast as possible because we have already received an order from a dealer to purchase our meagre remainder.

Meet Mrs. Kay F. Goodman

A newcomer on the U. S. philatelic scene—though most assuredly no novice—is “long time” SCP member Kay F. Goodman (#462) of Christchurch, Dorset, England.

While the SOCIETY is proud to have several serious lady-philatelists among its members, Mrs. Goodman's exhibit is the first in several senses: it is the first Czecho exhibit by a lady in an international show held in the United States. In fact, it may be the first Czech exhibit by a lady in ANY major U. S. show. Additionally, it is probably the first Czecho exhibit in recent years shown in the U. S. which comes from England.

Along with Czecho exhibits from Sweden, Switzerland and Germany, Mrs. Goodman has given us an opportunity to expand our philatelic horizons. While her showing was rated somewhat below those of her European colleagues, Mrs. Goodman is clearly an ardent student of Siberian Legion mail and its issues, and would have enjoyed discussing these with those of us who share her interest—



had she been able to attend INTERPHIL.

Hence we look forward to PRAGA '78—and finally meeting this fine collector, in person.

Dues Are Past Due

This is your last chance to pay your 1976 dues and be included in our annual membership roster which will be published in the September SPECIALIST. If you haven't taken care of this as yet, mail your dues right away to our Secretary, Ed Lisy, 87 Carmita Ave., Rutherford, N. J. 07070—and while you're at it, make it a Patron membership this year, at \$15. Regular membership is still only \$7.50, Youth membership \$3.

Advertisement

Advertisement

Advertisement

WANTED

Boy Scout stamps and covers. Quote price first letter.

Write:

STRAUSS — P. O. Box 321 — Peekskill, N. Y. 10566

370



(Advertisement)



OF PRAGUE INVITES YOU TO Collect CZECHOSLOVAK STAMPS

And Gives You Ten Fine Reasons Why:

- 1) They'll give you a glimpse into the heart of Europe
- 2) You'll make friends with a people who, in peace, are building a new life for their country
- 3) You'll marvel at the beauty of Czechoslovakia's countryside, extolled by its artists and poets
- 4) You'll become acquainted (or reacquainted) with the old cultural tradition of the Czech and Slovak peoples
- 5) You'll learn of the characteristic fauna and flora of Central Europe
- 6) You'll keep up with the latest in Czechoslovakia's industrial and scientific development, including advanced research
- 7) You'll love their motion—like illustrations of the colorful world of sport
- 8) You'll see why Czechoslovakia has gained international recognition for its advanced techniques of stamp reproduction, harmony of color and outstanding artistry
- 9) They represent the work of their finest artists and engravers
- 10) Czechoslovakia's stamps are neither too large or small—just stamps as stamps should be!

ASK YOUR FAVORITE DEALER!



New Issues

On April 26, 1976, the Czechoslovak postal authorities issued a set of six (6) stamps commemorating the following:

50th Anniversary of the Czechoslovak Radio Symphony Orchestra (20h)
 50th Anniversary of the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (20h)
 30th Anniversary of the "Nová Scéna" Theatre Company, Bratislava (20h)

International Folk Song and Dance Festival Strážnice 1946-76 (30h)

XX International Film Festival, Karlovy Vary (30h)

30th Anniversary of UNESCO (2Kčs)

The first five stamps of the set were printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure. The high value was printed by flat recess print in miniature sheets of 10 stamps with the emblem of UNESCO in the margin.

On May 9th Czechoslovakia issued another set of Bratislava Tapestries: two values only—3Kčs and 3.60Kčs, both produced by flat recess print in miniature sheets of four stamps.

On May 14th there issued a set of three values, 30h, 60h and 1 Kčs on occasion of the 55th Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.





Advertisement

Advertisement

Advertisement

CZECHOSLOVAK FIRST DAY COVER SERVICE

We have been dealing in CZECHOSLOVAKIA and have many unusual covers going back for 20 years or more. We have no lists because in many cases, we are down to tiny amounts. However, drop us a line and we will be pleased to submit for your inspection.

The CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC AGENCY IN PRAGUE continually recommends us on Czech covers.

Bay Bowl Bldg.

CLYDE J. SARZIN

Port Washington, N. Y. 11050

363



Our 21st Year

K-Line's Czechoslovakia Pages

SUPPLEMENT No. 22—1974-75

\$3.95 plus 65c postage

(Fully illustrated and expertly annotated)

OUR MOTTO: "Others can Beat our Price, but not the Quality"

**AS A SPECIAL FEATURE WE PROVIDE A
CZECH NEW ISSUE SERVICE**

As a subscriber to our K-Line's Czech New Issue Service you will receive next year's supplement at no charge, except for postage. Write for details.

K-LINE PUBLISHING, INC.

P. O. Box 159

Berwyn, Ill. 60402

P.S.—Besides Czech, we have a line of pages for 15 countries and 11 Topics.

WANT TO BUY

MINT **MINT**
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ISSUES 1923-1926
(Scott Nos. 92-118)

Full Sheets

Part Sheets

Blocks

Die Proofs

Color Trials

Plate Proofs

Rare Perforations

Varieties

Rare Watermark Positions

ARTHUR I. KESSLER

221 East 78th Street

New York, N. Y. 10021
