

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



Official Monthly Journal of the

(USPS 808300)

Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

Silver Award Interphil '76 — Silver Award Capex '78 — Silver-Bronze Praga '78

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXXIII

June/July, 1981

No. 6, Whole No. 411

KLEIN WINS SOCIETY'S COMPLEX '81 "GRAND"

COMPLEX '81 and the SCP's 1981 Convention and Show took place in Chicago's Expocenter on May 1, 2, and 3rd. About 80 frames of Czechoslovakia entered by some of the Society's best known exhibitors were on display.

The unanimous winner and recipient of the Society's Grand Award was Mr. J. L. Klein of Wassenaar, Holland. Mr. Klein presented an extensive and highly specialized showing of Czechoslovakia's Air Mails which included rare and interesting early items, proofs, essays and Zeppelin covers, as well as interesting post WWII items.

Instead of presenting a "second" and "third" place award, the two runner-ups received equivalent awards by unanimous decision of the judges. One recipient was Mr. Joseph Vondrak of Roselle, Illinois for an exhibit of stampless 19th Century covers postmarked on future Czechoslovak territory. The exhibit included numerous rare and fancy cancels apparently selected from Mr. Vondrak's extensive collection of early Austrian covers. The other recipient was Mr. C. J. Pearce of Coalgate, Oklahoma for his highly specialized "Allegory" exhibit, for which Mr. Pearce has previously received numerous national as well as international awards.

Honorable mention with felicitations from the jury went to Mr. Joseph Stein for his showing of "Hidden Seizinger (engraver's) Initials" - a subject of Joe Stein's long time and painstaking research.

The SCP - COMPLEX '81 jury included Messrs. Bernard A. Hennig, Henry Hahn and Werner Gruenebaum, the latter substituting for J. J. Verner who was unable to attend.

Following a brief address and presentation of awards by SCP President Henry Hahn, a SPECIAL AWARD commemorating Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr. was presented by his widow, Mrs. Marie Matejka to Mr. George Kobyłka for his numerous and valuable contributions to Czechoslovak philately. George Kobyłka is best known to Czech collectors as publisher of the K-Line series of albums. His serious interest in Czech history and artistic presentation are reflected both in his album and in his

occasional, but lovely, exhibits, one of which graced the current COMPEX show.

Following presentation of awards at the fine MORAVIA restaurant in suburban Chicago, a number of Society members and friends gathered for the group picture below.



The Society's 1981 Annual Convention took place on Saturday, May 2nd and included a general meeting followed by an auction conducted by Charles Chesloe, at which some excellent material - as well as some bargains - changed hands.

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Changes of address to the editorial office.

An SCP Board of Directors meeting, scheduled earlier that day was changed to an informal meeting due to lack of a quorum (by one member). A number of items were nevertheless discussed. It is expected that a formal meeting of the Board will take place during the summer or early fall.

A Society table was manned throughout the COMPEX show. An excellent selection of books and journals was available for sale and new members were enrolled.

The COMPEX 1981 Catalogue is massive (196 pages !) and contains much that will be of interest to the Society membership. Examples include "Expertizing Marks of Czechoslovakia" by Charles Chesloe, "Prisoner of War Camps on the Territories of Bohemia and Moravia" by Miroslav Vostatek (reprinted from the SPECIALIST), and "Red Cross" by Jane Sterba. A loan copy of the catalogue is available from the Society's library.

The Society wishes to thank co-chairperson Jane Sterba and Charles Chesloe for an organizing job well done and for the many courtesies extended to attendees and exhibitors. The Chicagoland Branch of the Society has worked long and hard hauling frames, mounting exhibits, shepherding out-of-towners about, and being most gracious hosts.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S STOCK BOOK

Those of our readers who have read the May issue of the SPECIALIST carefully expect the present issue to arrive late. However, we're afraid it will arrive even later than anticipated - for not only did we fail to include a brief report on COMPEX, but our Editor, Dick Major, was suddenly required to leave on an official trip to Africa and it has taken us a bit of extra time to pick up the bits and pieces.

Members are reminded to place nominations for Society Directors by July 15, 1981. Please refer to p. 11 of the May issue for details.

Our Editorial Board is always pleased to hear from its readers. The May issue elicited the widest spectrum of comments in some time. These ranged from severe criticism of the lead article "POW's in Northern Moravia" panned by one of last year's BALPEX winners, Fred W. Hefer to an accolade by Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, former SPECIALIST Editor and postal historian of both national and international prominence.

Mr. Hefer feels that the lead article contains excessive, extraneous and non-philatelic material, is politically inspired and offensive (these are not Mr. Hefer's words but our interpretation of his detailed letter). Dr. Reiner-Deutsch, on the other hand, has "truly enjoyed the May issue of the Specialist."

There appears to be a basic question of how much collateral information a postal history article may contain. Further comments on this question are invited - as well as of course on any other philatelic issue.

We wish to take this opportunity to wish our members a pleasant summer.

CHARLEY'S CORNER

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of talking once again with Mr. Roger Koerber, prior to another superb auction of his, which featured some outstanding Czechoslovak material. Over the past few years Mr. Koerber has presented some splendid Czechoslovak material in his auctions, and I feel he is to be congratulated on this endeavor.

During our conversation he brought up my article which appeared in the November 1980 Specialist, in which I had referred to many stamps now being sold which bear only recent expertization marks, especially with the mark of Mikulski, which I believed might be forgeries. I had particularly drawn attention to a copy of B112 in the Koerber sale, and to a B90 in the Loth sale in Germany, both of which were signed by Mikulski, and which I judged to be forgeries.

Mr. Koerber informed me that Z. Miluski is a recognized expert internationally in many countries. His knowledge of the stamps of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Yugoslavia and neighboring countries is vast and carries much weight there. He is a member of the A.I.E.P (Association Internationale des Experts Philatéliques), which also counts Jan Mrnak as a member. Another current member is Jan Karasek of Brno, who is truly recognized as an expert in Czechoslovakia. Mr. Koerber assured me that the stamps signed by Mikulski had actually been sent to him for expertization and did not arrive already so signed in the collection. Several bidders at the Koerber auction did take extensions on these items and submitted them to Karasek for an opinion in which he concurred with Mikulski in judging them to be genuine.

The Padělky Handbook, printed in Prague in 1963, is an excellent reference work which deals with the known forgeries of Czechoslovak stamps and treats the "Pošta 1919" series in great detail. While the original book is difficult to find, it was translated in the Specialist and is available from our book sales. It is a must for serious collectors of Czechoslovakia.

I still feel that the Mikulski expertization mark is being forged somewhere in Europe, just as the marks of Gilbert and Mruak were forged in the past. These forged marks are also shown in the Padělky Handbook. As I mentioned in my November article, one must be careful when purchasing expensive Czech material.

If I have cast some doubt on the authentic Mikulski marks, this was a grave error on my part, but one ~~should~~ still be very careful, and if there is the slightest doubt take an extension and submit the item to a second expert. In an article in the 1940 Specialist there is mention of an American millionaire who wanted to corner the market on the 2 heller large numeral "Pošta 1919", Scott No. B40, since it was known that only 30 copies had been printed. Various agents all over the world began sending him stamps, and after some time passed, he found that he had nearly 50, all signed by experts, and more were coming in. The lesson here is: Be careful when you are spending a lot of money. Good hunting.

64th **A collector from east Germany sent a cz coll**
MAIL SALE **for sale. The starting prices are low, so please**
do NOT bid below them.

Lot No.	Description	Minimum BID
1.	Stampless cover cancelled ZNAIM (Znojmo)	10.
2.	Austrian stamps cancelled on Cz territory 116 on album pages	16.
3.	similar lot 68 stamps	9.
4.	Boy Scout stamps *	12.
5.	same used	12.
6.	STATNI VLADA set up to 1K *	20.
7.	an old Austrian stamp with same overprint proof (Roessler Orovsky)	40.
8.	Hradcany set up to 1.000 h some perf	10.
9.	Hradcany perforated 16 values	10.
10.	Hradcany used for cancels ab 500 copies	10.
11.	POSTA 1919 triangle stamp 2h.	6.
12.	Long set some used of 62	37.
13.	Turul set 2h to 60h	30.
14.	MASARYK 1920 set *	5.
15.	MASARYK 1923 set *	5.
16.	MASARYK SLET set *	40.
17.	MASARYK 1925 set 40h to 5K *	7.
18.	MASARYK 1930 set *	5.
19.	MASARYK same with tabs	10.
20.	Dif covers and cards ab 135	24.
21.	Only postal stationary some ° some * about 200	80.
22.	Shoe box of covers, cards and stamps, duplicates, some labels	60.
23.	AIR SETS: first airmail C 1/3 signed *	30.
24.	AIR SETS: second set, perf, vf, signed *	40.
25.	AIR SETS third set *	4.
26.	long set up to 50K *	3.
27.	same no gum	1.
28.	50h green pair IMPERF, scarce	20.
29.	Eastern Silesia S.O. long set some used 60 stamps	35.
30.	War Occ BohMoravia compl country *	35.
31.	long set of NY Worlds Fair 1939/40 used and * ab 16	40.
32.	Monografie Nr 1 (Hradcany etc)	20.
33.	Monografie 13	10.
34.	Monografie 14	10.
35.	Specialized cat for Cz stamps	10.

Books close July 30th

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(Congratulations and Best Wishes to you both from all of us in the Society)

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A HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE OF POSTAL SERVICES IN TELTSCH AND VICINITY

By Henry Hahn

The next four pages, (centerfold) contain a continuation of the above titled work, which is being published serially. Publication began in the May 1980 issue.



Fig. 42 - Bilingual Post Mark
Introduced After First Year of Occupation

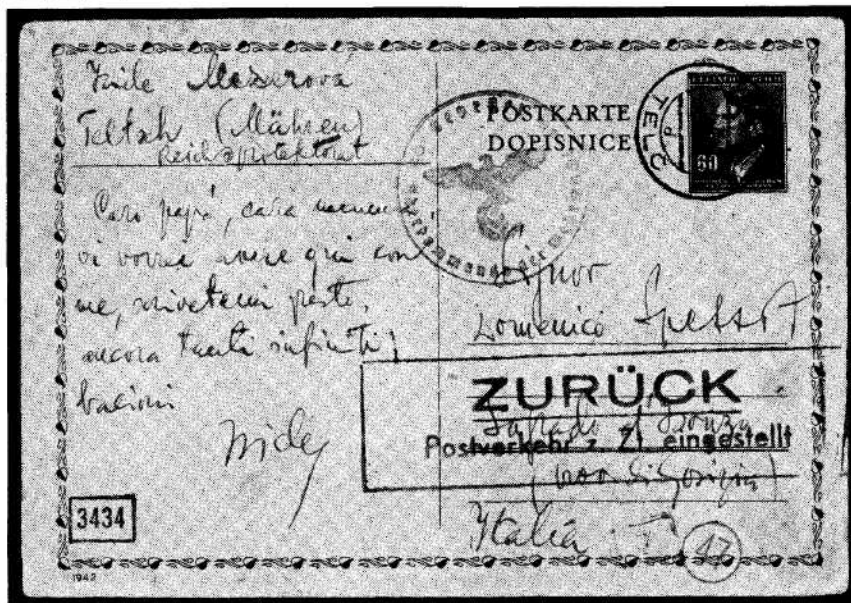


Fig. 43 Censored Card Addressed to Italy, Returned Due to Suspension of Service (July 23, 1943)

A return to the bilingual registry label, "postage due" and "postage paid in bulk" rubber stamps are all shown on a single cover illustrated in Fig. 44. This cover was sent by the County Authority in Teltsch toward the end of the war. The purpose of the "Einschreiben" (Registered) German rubber stamp is uncertain and is surmised to have been applied by the sender. Also unclear is the reason for the postage due collection, particularly the amount (2.40K) indicated in pencil. This amount is double the regular prevailing letter rate of 1.20K, which is presumably covered by the bulk payment as indicated by the bi-lingual rubber stamp. It would appear more likely that the bulk payment might not have applied to the registry fee - but in that instance the 2.40K due would have been insufficient and should have been collected from the sender at time of registry.



Fig. 44 - Registered Letter, Bulk Prepaid with Postage Due, Feb. 1, 1945

PROTECTORATE MILITIA

No postal period in Teltsch would be complete without its citizens serving in some armed force, - though during the period of the Protectorate this "Armed force" was hardly "armed" and most certainly not a "force". Named "VLADNÍ VOJSKO" (Governmental Militia), its troops performed a variety of noncombat functions for its German masters, primarily within the borders of the Protectorate, though some units saw service abroad. Its ranks were recruited from the disbanded Czechoslovak Army, and the troops were entitled to use the German field post.

The card shown in Figure 45 is somewhat unusual since it originated in Italy. This is quite clear from the barely disguised implications in the message, as well as from subsequent correspondence. The sender apparently was unaware of his field post return address and hence lists it as "PFC of the Government Militia, name, 9th Battalion, 4th Company - via the General Inspectorate of Government Militia, Prague XIV/47". The censor, field post clerk, or other corrected the return address in red crayon crossing out the unit identification and routing, and wrote "send only by Fieldpost". A subsequent pen marking indicates Field Post 47953/E. The field postcard bears the usual field post cancel and blue "geprüft" censor marking. The circled 1 lb. is a precursor to today's "zip code", as introduced by the Germans.

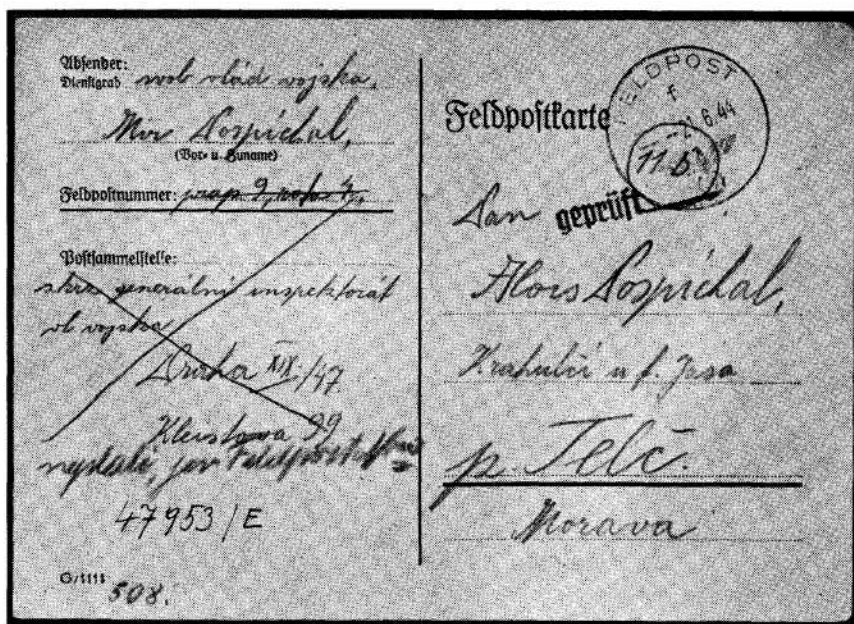


Figure 45. Field Post, June 21, 1944 - "VLÁDNÍ VOJSKO" to Teltech.

LIBRATION

Recalling the period of libration in October 1918 and subsequent interest in certain of the locally overprinted issues, the Teltech collectors, still (or again?) operating under the name "Klub Českých Filatelů v Telči" (Club of Czech Philatelists in Teltech) proceed to have the 60h and 1.20K "Hitler" denominations overprinted "OSVOBOZENÍ 1945" (Liberation 1945). The overprinting was carried out at the Fišer print shop, located on the main square. Two sheets of 100 stamps of each value were overprinted - presumably some days ahead of the yet unknown date of liberation, since the actual date is not part of the overprint. Most of the overprints were sold to members of the Club at face value, with some receiving as many as ten sets - 8 mint and 2 on registered cover, as illustrated in Figure 46. The overprinted stamps were clearly accepted as valid postage, with the additional 20h (2 @ 10h Hitler without overprint) required to pay full local, registered postage. Interestingly, the cover is postmarked on May 8, 1945, the day PRIOR to liberation by General Malinowsky's Army. Hence the franking was presumably accepted by the Protectorate postal personnel and the postmark used is bi-lingual.

The next day, presumably following the arrival of the liberating army and now under official Czech postal administration, the overprinted stamps continued to be accepted, as illustrated in Figure 47. The franking is identical except for an additional 40h to cover out-of-town registered postage; but the cancel has been "nationalized" by removal of the German "TELTSCH". In the rush of postal (and philatelic?) activity, the postal clerk apparently neglected to cross off the German in the registry label.



Fig. 46 - Locally Overprinted Usage Prior To Liberation (May 8, 1945)



Fig. 47 - Locally Overprinted Usage Day of Liberation (May 9, 1945) Note Altered Postmark

Dr. Jan Kostelka (translated by Paul Sturman)

BOHEMOSLOVENICA *(continued)*

Catalog of stamps and postal stationery containing reference to Czechoslovakia, its land, peoples, their fields of endeavor and achievements.

For ease in identification the Michel Catalog is utilized, presumably most widely used in philately.

In some instances catalog numbers for the latest issues were not available at the time of compilation of this work. It is hoped, however, that the description of a particular issue will be sufficiently clear for finding the proper Michel number when available.

BULGARIA *(continued)*

In honor of the 100th anniversary of issue of the first Bulgarian stamp (1879 - 1979) two sets of stamps were issued. On one of the stamps appear the images of Sts. Cyril and Methodius. It is stamp Mi 1026 in different colors. The issues also propagate the Philaserdica 1979. Mi 2735-2739, and Mi 2747 - 2751.

For the 30th anniversary of the Council for Mutual Aid a stamp was issued in 1979 with the flag of Czechoslovakia. Mi 2746.

In 1979 a set of stamps was issued with reproduction of paintings on the walls of St. Clement's Basilica in Rome. Sts. Cyril and Methodius, missionaries to Great Moravia are also depicted together with a scene of carrying the remains of St. Clement, their reception by Pope Hadrian II, and the burial of St. Cyril in Rome. The names of the two missionaries also appear in the cancellation. Mi 2860 - 2864.

In honor of the World Conference of States in Madrid, year 1980, a special miniature sheet was issued bearing, inter alia, the flag of Czechoslovakia. Mi 2869 - 2871.

In 1980 a miniature sheet in honor of Intercosmos was issued also bearing the flag of Czechoslovakia. Mi 2884.

BURUNDI

On a set of stamps issued in 1969 the image of Ludwig von Beethoven appears. A miniature sheet issued also bears his image.

CEYLON

A set of stamps with the image of King George V of this former British Colony is of 1935-1936. The image of the King was engraved by a Czech engraver, Bohumil Heinz. Mi 216 - 226.

CHAD

In 1969 a set of stamps was issued in honor of the 200th anniver-

sary of birth of French Emperor Napoleon I. Details under "France". One of the stamps depicts the battle at Slavkov. Mi 275 - 277.

For the World Championship in soccer in Mexico year 1970 a set of stamps was issued bearing the flags of the participating nations, among them Czechoslovakia. Simultaneously a special miniature sheet was issued for the Olympic games in 1968 on which the name of Czechoslovakia is listed, and on the sports set issued for the Olympics is a scene from the final game in Rome in 1934 in which the Czechoslovak team participated. Mi 395 - 309.

In the set of Olympic champions at the München games one of the stamps depicts Ludvík Daněk of Czechoslovakia and the flag of the country.

The image of scientist Albert Einstein appears on the 100-F value. Einstein was a professor at the German University in Praha.

The airmail set issued in 1977, 150-F value, bears the image of Marquise de LaFayette. For three years he was kept a prisoner at Olomouc. Mi 738.

The sports set of 1979 contains a scene of the soccer game between Brazil and Czechoslovakia in 1962.

CHINA

The Czech Master, Bohumil Heinz, was also known in China. He worked on two stamps of the 1932-1933 issues, the 1-c and 50-c values. Sc 312-323.

Within the framework of technical cooperation of China and Czechoslovakia a stamp was issued in 1959 depicting the printing office for the production of stamps in Peking. The building was constructed with the assistance of Czechoslovakia and this is mentioned in the legend of the stamp. Mi 450.

On the 25th anniversary of (communist) Czechoslovakia in 1960 a set of two stamps was issued. On one is the flag of Czechoslovakia, and the other bears the picture of Karl's Bridge with a view of Hradcany. A FDC with a silhouette of Hradcany and special cancellation was also issued. Mi 532 - 533.

For the 27th World Championship in table tennis in Praha, year 1963, two stamps with the name of Praha were issued. Mi 739 - 740.

Toward the end of 1979 a large set of stamps was issued with pictures of camellias. A miniature sheet was also authorized and issued. Details under "Japan." Mi 1539 - 1548, and 1549.

In March 1979 a stamp was issued in honor of the 100th anniversary of birth of Professor Albert Einstein. Mi 1478.

DOMOHEY

In a two-stamp airmail set of July 1971 is a portrait of John Kepler (1570 -1630) in honor of the 400th anniversary of his birth. During the era of Rudolf II he lived in Praha. Mi 452 - 453.

In 1967 a stamp was issued with the portrait of Oscar Kokoschka, an Austrian who in 1934 - 1938 lived in Praha. Mi 318.

DENMARK

On the 400th anniversary of birth of Astronomer Tycho Brahe a stamp in the value of 20.0 was issued. Tycho Brahe lived in Praha as the court astronomer of Rudolf II. He died in Praha and is interred in the Týn Cathedral. A FDC cover was also issued. Mi 294.

In January 1966 a set of two semi-postals was issued in favor of the Red Cross. Among the names for the Red Cross in 30 languages one is in Czech. A FDC was also issued. Mi 438 - 439.

In 1947 a cover was issued with the picture of a memorial tablet in honor of Queen Dagmar with inscription in Danish and Czech, and the lion of Bohemia.

In October 1973 a stamp was issued in honor of the 400th anniversary of publication of Tycho Brahe's work "De Nova Stella." Astronomer Tycho Brahe is buried in Praha. Mi 549.

In the postage free cancellation of Glostrup city appears the Slovak word "drevo."

In year 1975, dedicated in Europe for the preservation of historical structures, one of the stamps in the set issued depicts the old Moravian Brethren Church in Christianfeld. The stamp is of 70.0 value. Mi 592 - 594.

During the Czechoslovak exposition of industry and commerce in Herning from 25th of April to the fourth of May 1975 a special postal cancellation was used which included the name of Czechoslovakia.

In Kjobenhavn on the "postage free" stamp the logo of the former Czechoslovak machine works "Mas" appears.

ETHIOPIA

In honor of the Second Conference of Free African Nations in Addis Abeba in 1960 a set of three stamps was issued. The engraving of the stamps was accomplished by Czech Master Engraver Jindra Schmidt. Mi 396 - 398.

The 30th anniversary of coronation of the Emperor in 1960 was noted in a series of stamps designed and engraved by Jindra Schmidt of Czechoslovakia. Mi 401 - 403.

A stamp issued in 1961 in honor of "African Day" was designed and engraved by Jindra Schmidt of Czechoslovakia. Mi 404.

A set of stamps depicting various animals was created by Czechoslovak artists. The designs were created by painter Bratislav Kovařík. Engraver Jindra Schmidt engraved the 15-c, 25-c and 1-S values, while engraver L. Jirka did the 5-c, 35-c and 50-c values. Mi 408 - 413.

The sports set of stamps were engraved in 1962 by Czechoslovak engravers. Jindra Schmidt engraved the 10-c and the 50-c values, and L. Jirka the 15-c, 2-c and 30-c values. Mi 417 - 421.

The 10th anniversary of completion of a telecommunication network in Ethiopia was observed with a set of three stamps in 1963 engraved by Jindra Schmidt. Mi 445 - 447.

Also a set of "handicapped children" was engraved by Jindra Schmidt and the stamps were printed in the Union Printery of Praha. Mi 455 - 458.

A set of stamps depicting important personages was issued in 1964 and printed in the Union Printery of Praha. Mi 464 - 468.

The work of Czechoslovak artists is noted on other sets of Ethiopian stamps. Inka Treský of Czechoslovak origin wife of the Czech expert at the university lives in Addis Abbeba. As a graphic artist she participated three times in contests for the best designs and was a winner each time. She designed the set for the 40th anniversary of the coronation of the Emperor, the set for the Organization of African Union, and the set for the commemoration of the International Year of Education. Mi 650 - 652, Mi 653 - 655, and Mi 671 - 692.

The fourth prizewinning work of Inka Treský for designs of Ethiopian stamps is the five-stamp set of paintings of the 15th to 18th century. Mi 732 - 736.

Mrs. Inka Treský also created a set of stamps for the 25th anniversary of UNICEF. Mi 688 - 692.

FINLAND

For the athletic competition FIS in Finland in 1938 a postal card was issued bearing also the flag of Czechoslovakia.

For the First Flight in 1969 between Helsinki and Budapest the City of Praha is also shown as a stop enroute.

FRANCE

On the occasion of a visit of American Legion in France in 1927, a set of two stamps was issued with the image of Gen. LaFayette (1757-1834) who was a prisoner of the Prussian and Austrian Emperors in the Fortress of Olomouc for several years. Mi 224 - 225.

The image of the great French emperor, Napoleon I, appears on several French stamps. In Czechoslovakia his military prowess is best remembered by the battle at Slavkov (Austerlitz) on December 2, 1805. For the 200th anniversary of his birth, in 1969, another stamp was issued with his portrait. Napoleonic motifs are also noted on Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Russian, Belgian, Barbadosian and Bhutanian, Yemenian, Andorran, Algerian, Monacan, Southern Arabian, Dubayan and Paraguayan issues. These stamps are not listed further in this publication.

In addition to the above named countries stamps with Napoleonic motifs on the 200th anniversary of Napoleon's birth the following states issued stamps in 1969 or 1970 to note the date: Ajman, Andorra, Tschad,

Monaco, Mauretania, Niger, New Caledonia, Polynesia, Ras al Khaima, Reunion, Rwanda, St. Lucia, Central African Republic, Sharjah, Liberia and Oman.

On the 150th anniversary of Napoleon's death the following countries issued stamps with the image of Napoleon in 1971: Niger, Senegal, St. Helena, Grenada, Tschad, Gabon, Togo and Ajman.

In 1937 a stamp was issued with the image of the French mathematician and philosopher René Descartes to note the 370th anniversary of his birth. Descartes participated in the battle of Bílá hora (White Mountain) west of Praha, and for a time was with the French Army in Moravia and Slovakia. Mi 347.

In the set of stamps issued in 1938 the 3-F issue with a view of Avignon of southern France, and for a time the seat of popes, is also the last resting place of Jan Milič of Kroměříž a religious reformer and forerunner of Jan Hus. Mi 408 - 415.

The well-known view of the beautiful Gothic Cathedral of Rheims appears on a stamp issued in 1938. It was issued to commemorate its reconstruction after having been ruined in WWI. The Cathedral was the depository of the priceless Gospels on which French Kings were sworn in. The Book of Gospels is one of the oldest examples of Old Slavonic (Church Slavonic) language. The same view appears on an issue in 1930 - 1933. Mi 256, 4-30.

The 23rd anniversary of the famous battle of Verdun was commemorated in 1939 with stamp 90-C. Verdun was also the site of a battle in which Czechoslovak Legionnaires participated during WWI. Mi-459.

The hero of the battle of Verdun, Col. Driant is depicted on a stamp issued to note the 40th anniversary of the event. A scene of this battle appears on the 30-F value. Both stamps were issued in 1946. Mi 1080 - 1081.

Francesco Petrarca is depicted in the set of 1956. Details on him appear under "Italy". Mi 1110 - 1115.

(to be continued)



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