

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

Vol. XLIX

September 1987

No. 7, Whole No. 471

A FIELD POST EPITAPH

By Dr. Miroslav Vostatek — Translated by Mirko L. Vondra

Franz Wawrička was from Vavrovic at Opava. Like many others, he enlisted as a soldier in World War I. He chose the Air Force which, in those days, was considered a lure for the bold, the foolhardy and the adventuresome. He became a military pilot after completing his flight training in Vienna's New City.

As every good soldier used to do, he wrote letters home to his family and to his many friends. Much of his correspondence was preserved. He would write on the backs of photographs which the pilots took of each other at their aircraft. This in itself is an item of considerable interest. Serving as postcards, these pictures bore cancellations of the Fieldpost and of other forms on the reverse side.

K. u. k. FELDSPITAL N 1602.

E. N.

Vor- und Zuname	Wawrička Franz		
Charge	Leutnant	Geburtsjahr	1893 Assentjahr u. Gr. N. —
Truppenkörper (Unterabt.) Kmdo Anstalt	Luftfahrtrupp		
Heimatsgemeinde Bez.-Kom. Land	Wavrovitz		
Sterbetag	25. II. 1917	Wo gestorben	in Torso Italien
Todesursache:	his Flugzeug abgestürzt.		
Einzelne - Reihen - Massen -	Grab in der Gemeinde	am n. h. Friedhof Torso	Grab No.

Feld



27. XII. 1917.

Franz Wawrička
Feld

Later, Wawrička served in the city of Rajlovač near Sarajevo in what was then Bosnia. His parcels were carried by K und K Milit. Post "a," Alipašin Most (Military Post of the Reigning Monarch at Alipašin Bridge.) The other cancellation was "K.u.K. Fliegerersatzgruppen, Fliegerersatzbataillon II, Fliegerersatzkompanie Nr. 14." Translated, it means "K and K Augmented Air Reserve Squadron No. 14." This was accompanied by a printed emblem and an Air Mail marking.

In those days, the life and military missions of a 20-year-old pilot did not last long. Even the news of his demise was carried by Fieldpost 487 on a "K and K Field Hospital Form number 1602" that was specially cancelled. The form provided information that was filled in blanks to supply the sad news. Next to his name, the rank was listed as Corporal/Sergeant. His unit was in an air formation when he died on Nov. 25, 1917, at Torsa in Italy. Cause of death was given as "Plane Crash." He was buried at the Roman Catholic cemetery in Torsa. The form lists whether burial was in a separate grave, a mass grave or a row grave and in what parish.

Preserved is a letter written by his squadron leader to the pilot's family in which he relates that he was flying with his lieutenant in inclement weather. Icing caused the aircraft to break up. Both fliers died in the wreckage.

Here is but one example of how the mails gave vivid testimony to a single war-time event. Unwittingly, Wawrička has given specialized collectors an unusual Fieldpost epitaph.

Interest in Fieldpost activities during the World War I period is on the increase. Perhaps one of the reasons is an abundance of material. Our illustration shows Wawrička in a light jacket standing on the left side of the wing behind the propeller.



This picture and the subsequent obituary notice are of particular value to collectors of World War I Fieldpost.

It is my first philatelic experience with this kind of documentation and I am happy to share it with you.



NEW SLOVAK SECTION FORMED

By Jack Benchik

Our society has a new entity within its organizational structure. It's called the Slovakia Section and will consist of society members interested in the stamps and postal history of Slovakia. Besides the 1939–1945 issues, it includes covers and postmarks of the area known as Slovakia under Austrian, Hungarian, and Czechoslovak postal administrations. Actually many topics pertain to Slovakia, such as its: people (notable persons who were born and/or lived, and/or died within its boundaries), places (cities, towns, tunnels, mountains), events (occasions of happenings having historical or current significance), items (coats-of-arms, paintings, monuments, archaeological artifacts), buildings (castles, institutions, universities, museums, post offices), etc. There subjects can be collected when issued by other countries. The section will get involved in whatever any participant wants to collect, and/or study, and/or write about. It will also serve as a means of exchanging information.

This is not a first for the society, as a study group on Hradčany was formed by John Velek during the 1950's, but this section has been inactive for quite some time.

Much remains to be learned and researched about the postal emissions of the area in east central Europe bounded by Moravia, Poland, Russia, and Hungary. Many articles could be written as there are quite a few unlisted varieties of stamps not in the English, Czech or Slovak language catalogs. Perhaps we can make these publishers aware of them. There are and were many post offices, but the existence of some postmarks has yet to be documented.

As a starting point, below is an outline recommended for an all-encompassing Slovakia collection:

- I. Forerunners
 - A. Austria (before 1867)
 - 1. Stampless Covers-Postmarks (before 1850)
 - 2. Stamp Period-Cancellations (1850–1867)
 - B. Hungary (1867–1918)
 - 1. Slovak Topics (people, places, items, etc.)
 - 2. Slovak Town Cancellations (stamps, covers)
 - C. Czechoslovakia-1st Democratic Republic (1918–39)
 - 1. Provisionals from Slovak Towns (1918)
 - 2. Hyphenated "Česko-Slovensko" (1918–26)
 - 3. Slovak Topics (people, places, items, etc.)
 - 4. Slovak Town Cancellations
 - II. Slovakia (1939–45)
 - A. Transition (1939)
 - B. Provisionals (1939)
 - 1. Definitive
 - 2. Newspaper
 - C. Hyphenated (1939)
 - D. Regular (1939–45)
 - 1. Definitive
 - 2. Newspaper
 - 3. Commemorative
 - 4. Personal Delivery
 - 5. Postage Due
 - 6. Charity (Semi-Postal)
 - 7. Air Mail
 - E. Postal Stationary
 - III. After (Post) Runners* (1945–Present)
 - A. Czechoslovakia
 - 1. Transition (1945)
 - 2. 2nd Democratic Republic (1945–48)
 - 3. Communist Centralize Gov't (1948–69)
 - 4. Communist Federal Gov't (1969–Present)
 - B. Other Countries
-

The above is a rough draft to serve as a starting point. It can be expanded into more detail, depending upon each collector's or specialist's needs. The terms "afterrunner" and "postrunner," take your choice, are used to define the time after a dead stamp issuing country ceased to exist on its own. This is a way to bring such a dead country from a philatelic standpoint back to life. In the case of Slovakia, this is done by collecting the stamps of Czechoslovakia pertaining to Slovakia. Also collecting current first day and first flight covers from Slovak cities is another method of keeping a dead country alive. This is by no means meant to be an exhaustive or complete list. You are only limited by the bounds of your imagination.

The objectives and goals of the section will be determined by what its participants want to do. No suggestion is too ridiculous or outlandish. Your interests and specialization are just as important as anyone else's, so let's hear from you Slovakian collectors out there. Please send me your name, address, collecting interests, and ideals on the purposes of this section to me at: P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

*The collector or specialist can use either term: "afterrunner" or "postrunner," to designate the philatelic material pertaining to a dead country after it stopped being a stamp issuing entity. They mean the opposite of forerunner.

CZECHOSLOVAK COLLECTIONS AT STOCKHOLMIA

By Jaroslav J. Verner

It is always a pleasure to go to Scandinavia. Everything there is done so well and with such taste. In fact we have come to expect this and perhaps do not give the Scandinavians the credit they deserve when we find it so. STOCKHOLMIA was that way — done well and with taste. I arrived a few days before the closing of the exhibit, found that I needed a bit more time, but probably did not miss very much that I really wanted to see there.

A few words about the exhibit as a whole. It was located in the international exhibit halls a way out of Stockholm, which was somewhat of a problem for the visitor. If no car was available, one could reach the exhibit site via a short ride on a suburban train that ran fairly frequently. The exhibit area itself, was large, roomy and well lit. Large overhead signs in several languages made sections of the exhibition easy to locate. One of the features I appreciated was seats located throughout the exhibit area where one could rest, look up exhibits in the catalog or chat with friends. Also well organized was food and beverage service in the exhibit hall. Eating areas were pleasant, roomy and even during the lunch hour I did not encounter any delays in service or shortage of seating space. Arrangements for collectors were good. An office with multi-lingual Swedish philatelists handled requests pleasantly and efficiently. The same was true of the dismounting of the exhibits on the final day — this usually drawn out and frustrating procedure was very well organized. It took only a few minutes to complete the necessary formalities.

Unfortunately, I did not arrive in time to take part in any special events other than the Palmes banquet. This, however, was worth the effort and expense. It took place in the Stockholm town hall, the same place where the Nobel prizes are awarded we were told proudly. The evening began with champagne and then dinner for the 1000 guests attending. The evening went smoothly with only the main prizes being awarded and a short musical program following. There was opportunity both to meet with friends and to make new acquaintances. The service of the ice cream cake desert was a striking piece of theater and ended the evening very pleasantly.

In the exhibit hall I naturally paid greatest attention to those exhibits containing Czechoslovak material. Their number was a bit disappointing. Two large golds were awarded to exhibits of Czechoslovak material, one to Ludvik Pytliecek for his "Czechoslovakia 1918-1939" and to Max Mahr for his superb exhibit of "Czechoslovak Pioneer and air mail routes through 1929." The Pytliecek exhibit has been described in the SPECIALIST before, so I will not dwell on it. But one must note that this exhibit was indeed a strong one and deserved the large gold. It was very strong in

Hradčany and Posta issues, both in singles and blocks, but also most of the other rarities of Czechoslovakia. I especially like the Vejprty fake on cover, the entire sheet of the Nitra tete-beche, and the headless chainbreaker on cover.

It is some time since I have seen Max Mahr's air mail collection and in Stockholm the exhibit was much better than I remembered it. Especially impressive were the many pioneer flights represented and the early balloon flights. Among the Zeppelin flights he had the rare November 2, 1913, "Sachsen" flight. Also of interest were several courier flight covers that I have seen for the first time. The depth of Max's first air mail issue covers was staggering. A quick count revealed 28 flown covers bearing the first air mail issue and 3 that actually went by train. He ran out of space, he told me, so that was all he could include in his exhibit. There is much more that could be said about this air mail collection, but suffice it to say that I found it well worth spending time to study it.

Small gold's were awarded to Gosta Hedbom (with a special award) for his "Czechoslovakia 1918-1925 including prephilately" and my exhibit "Czechoslovak Siberian Field Post 1917-1921." Of special interest in Gosta's exhibit were several royal letters in his prephilately section, a scout "prijezd" overprint on cover, several Hradčany joint types on cover or piece including the 500h, and several nice Hradčany engraver's proofs. He also had 5 of the very elusive "Cheshkya poshta" trials and the issued blue one. While he had a good selection of Posta material, he did not have any of the granite paper variety, the large 2h postage due was used only, and the black numerals included fakes, though they were marked as such. I, for one, do not believe this type of material belongs in an international show.

Gosta Hedbom and I both had two exhibits in the show and the other ones received vermeils. Gosta's "Czechoslovak Airmail 1918-1939" material was good and included the November 9 Haida Zeppelin flight, three flown covers of the first issue and a number of this issue on covers that traveled by train — all were properly described. The exhibit contained a good selection of the second issue on cover and a number of Zeppelin covers (6, I believe it was) originating in Czechoslovakia. It is interesting to note that Gosta's material on the third air mail issue did not include a cover with the 20Kčs stamp (see my article on this stamp in the September 1982 SPECIALIST). As for my own exhibit, "Czechoslovakia, A Specialized Collection," which has been awarded a number of golds in international shows, I must confess I was a bit disappointed with the jury's judgement.

Our member J. Louis Klein also was awarded a Vermeil for his exhibit "Czechoslovakia 1920-1923." Concentrating on the Hussite, Science & Agriculture, and Chain-breaker series, Klein was able to include some fine, perhaps unique pieces. For instance, I was impressed with the large block of 15 of the Košice counterfeit, and even more with the full stripe of the zinc die negative and positive prints of the 100h Science and Agriculture stamp. He also had a strong representation of other essays and proofs. As many of our readers are aware, this was only a small part of this very interesting and rapidly growing collection. Given the limited scope of this exhibit, I thought the award both deserved and generous.

Finally, there were two collections that were awarded silver medals, Sweden's Torsten Almquist's "Czechoslovakia 1918-1925" and Czechoslovakia's Bedrich Helm's "Czechoslovakia: Beginnings of regular Czechoslovak air transport." Almquist's exhibit was heavy on Hradčany with a few joined types. The description of the covers in the exhibit was weak; for instance PORTO and T hand stamp overprints were not explained. The one Siberian cover contained in the exhibit was, unfortunately, an altered cover. Helm's exhibit made a rather poor impression. There were three flown covers with stamps of the first air mail issue and two that had gone by train. But otherwise it was a mixed bag. The mounting was poor and there were a lot of common, commercially prepared covers that gave one the impression that they were there only to fill up the space the exhibitor had available.

When all is said and done, the exhibits of Czechoslovakia did fairly well at Stockholmia. It is not uncommon for exhibitors to feel that the judging was not completely consistent at an exhibition of this size and scope. This is my view in this case, though perhaps not more uneven than the general norm. The most pleasant thing for me in attending international shows is not even the opportunity to view other collections (and compare my own progress with them), but the camaraderie of friends who share a like interest. In this Stockholmia was completely successful.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By the time you receive this issue of the *SPECIALIST*, CAPEX 87 will either just have ended or will still be in full swing. Therefore, a full report on the Society's participation will not be ready until the September issue.

In the meantime, it's on to BALPEX 87! As chairman of the Society's program committee, Henry Hahn has prepared an elaborate and interesting agenda of events to which all members and friends are cordially invited. The show will take place at the Hunt Valley Inn (Route 81, just north of Baltimore) during the Labor Day weekend (Sept. 5, 6, and 7). A report of our activities there will hopefully appear in the November issue.

In 1988, the Society will actively participate in two major shows: First, NOJEX 88. Our program chairman, Dominick Riccio, will have more to say about that in one of our later issues this year. Second, PRAGA 88 which, as you might anticipate, will be the show of shows among philatelists throughout the world. Those planning to attend PRAGA 88 should seriously consider making their arrangements as early as possible. Our Chicago branch has already taken steps in that direction. Henry Hahn, the American commissioner to PRAGA 88, will tell you more about that important event in one of our subsequent issues.

Turning to the *SPECIALIST*, I am gratified to report that the response to my appeal for writers and translators has not fallen on deaf ears. We now have articles from two members who have never written anything for our publication. Both articles are well written and very informative and both will appear later this Fall. In addition, two other members have offered to translate articles from Czech to English. This is their first such contribution to the *SPECIALIST*.

Although this is not what I would call a sensational response, it is nevertheless a sign of progress. If more members continue to donate their writing and linguistic services to our Society, there is a good chance the *SPECIALIST* will continue to thrive as a viable philatelic journal for at least another decade. After all, the *SPECIALIST* is what you, the members, make it! The Society is a non-profit organization and everything you read in the *SPECIALIST* is contributed by members of their free time and effort.

A final word about the oncoming Board election. Last month you read that ballots are now being accepted by our secretary, Joseph Janečka, Jr., and by me, for nominations. My term of office as President has two and a half more years to run. Half of the Board in my next two years will consist of new officers and directors which you will nominate. However, your President needs a working Board in order to function effectively. Only six of the present ten Board members are actively engaged in administering Society affairs. Therefore, as a word of caution, be sure to obtain your candidate's permission to run before nominating him or her. If possible, impress upon them the need to help the Society operate by being an active Board member if elected. Remember, you only have till June 30 to turn in your ballot. Your nominating ballot is of utmost importance to the Society. Conversely, if you do not nominate anyone, do not be critical if the Society does not provide you with the kind of philatelic service you expect from an organization like ours.

Mirko L. Vondra

NEW MEMBERS

1486 KRAHULA, Martha, 214 Newberry Road, South Windsor, CN 06074
1487 ADACHI, Junichi, 15-14 Shoji 1 Chome, Ikune-Ku, Osaka City, 544, Japan
1488 BACKELJAUW, Frederik, Felix Timmermanslaan 39, B-2621, Schelle, Belgium
1489 GARANCOVSKY, Frank A., 8459 Four Seasons Trail, Poland, OH 44514

1490 DAVIDER, Joseph, 34 Dundalk Dr., Scarborough, Ontario H1P 4W3, Canada
1491 MEWHINNEY, Richard L., 33 Carlton Ave., Washington, NJ 07882

Welcome back to:

1271 CRAIG, Wallace A., P.O. Box 3391, Fullerton, CA 92634

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Napier, August 1987

I hope you all had a pleasant break from your stamps and that you are now refreshed and looking forward to reading and studying your favorite subject once more.

Perhaps you let me know of any discoveries you may have made in the interim.

You may have noticed some short fill-ins in the June issue of the *SPECIALIST*; I found these in various publications. Perhaps you, too, might see some prose or proverbs suitable for publication in our journal. If so, do not hesitate to share them with us; send them to me, no matter how brief. These items are of just as much value to the editor as long articles.

NEW ISSUES: You will have noticed there were no New Issues in the June *SPECIALIST*. I have looked into this matter again and have hopefully solved the problem with the assistance of a friend in Prague. The result was that we now have a fair amount of New Issue material, as shown in this edition.

THE DOVE: You will be pleased to see that beginning in October issue we are serializing the chapter on the Dove issue of 1920-1926 from *Monografie Volume 2*. The translation has been done by Vladimir Kraliček from Auckland, New Zealand, who did an extremely good job.

We have just learned that our dear friend and elite collector, Dr. Ladislav Fischmeister, has suffered a heart attack. As of this writing he is confined to intensive care and may require bypass surgery. We wish him complete and speedy recovery.

H.H.

Advertising Rates of the Specialist

Amount of Space	One Issue	Three Issues	Six Issues	Ten Issues
Full page.....	\$35.00	\$90.00	\$160.00	\$250.00
Half page.....	20.00	50.00	90.00	140.00
Quarter page.....	12.00	30.00	50.00	80.00
Eighth page.....	8.00	20.00	35.00	55.00
Sixteenth page (4 lines across page)	5.00	13.00	25.00	38.00
Thirty-second page (2 lines across page)	3.00	8.00	15.00	23.00

1. All amounts are total cost.
2. Discount of 20% for members from total cost, if they so desire.
3. For the sixteenth page (4 lines) and thirty-second page (2 lines) ads, there are 70 characters per line for all letters, numbers and blank spaces between words.
4. Have your ad double spaced between lines and typed or legibly printed.
5. It is the advertiser's responsibility that his or her copy is correct (proper spelling, abbreviations, punctuation, etc.) as the ad will be printed exactly how it is received, in other words "as is."
6. All art work (cuts, illustrations, logos, etc.) is the responsibility of the advertiser to furnish, unless prior arrangements are made with the Ad Manager. Otherwise, art work must be camera ready and the cost of cuts plus any other expenses incurred, will be added to the total cost of the ad.
7. Make your check payable to: "Society for Czechoslovak Philately."
8. Send your copy and payment to the Ad Manager:

Jack Benchik
P.O. Box 555
Notre Dame, IN 46556

STAMP BOOKLETS

By Zdenek Kvasnička — Translated by J. J. Verner

The first Austrian stamp booklets were issued in May 1908. The booklet was comprised of three panes of 6 stamps each of the 5 heller stamp and one pane of the 10 heller stamp, both of the 1908 issue. The stamps were divided by thin paper which, together with the stamps, was stapled along the left side into booklet covers. The color of the first printing of these booklet covers was light brown and the second printing was dark brown. A 2 heller production charge was originally added to the 1.50 Krouner value of the stamps, but was not collected in subsequent issues. Very few of these original booklets have been preserved and hence are sought by collectors. Specialized catalogs list the panes from the booklets as well as the stamps from the left side (Fig. 1).

In 1916 the second booklet issue appeared. The design of the cover was changed and the value of the booklet, 2 krouner, was added (Fig. 2). The stamp panes that were included were: one pane of six 5 heller stamps; one pane of four 5 heller stamps with two tabs with printed X-es; one pane of six 10 heller stamps; and one pane of six 15 heller stamps. The first two values depicted the imperial crown and the 15 heller stamp bore the picture of Emperor Franz Joseph (the 1916 issue) in the first issue and Emperor Karl in the second (1917/18). The color of the covers remained light brown until the beginning of 1918 when the color was changed to orange at the same time the subject of the 15 heller stamps was changed from Emperor Franz Joseph to Karl. The price of the booklet remained the same.

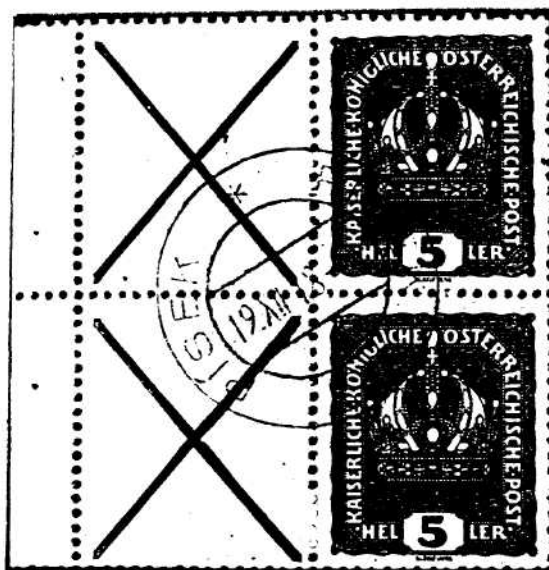
All of the values contained in these booklets continued to be valid in Czechoslovakia until February 28, 1919. Especially interesting to collectors are the 5 heller stamps with the tabs attached used in Czechoslovakia after October 28, 1918 (Fig. 3).

The Czechoslovak Postal Administration planned to issue stamps in booklet form in 1923. The cost of production was to be born by the advertising agency PIRAS, which, in compensation, was given the right to print commercial advertising on the booklet covers. According to one of the original proposals, the booklet was supposed to contain 12 stamps of the 10 heller dove design, four stamps of the 20 heller dove design with two tabs, and twelve 50 heller stamps with the chainbreaker design (Fig. 4). Apparently the increase in postal rates beginning February 1, 1922, was the main reason that plans to issue this booklet were cancelled. The entire printing that had been prepared for the booklet consisting of the dove and chainbreaker tête-bêche layout was released for sale at philatelic windows as well as for regular post office sale.

(Translator's note) This was the only time that Czechoslovakia even came close to issuing stamps in booklet form. Recent booklets that collectors may have seen were not issued officially by the post office, but rather prepared by POFIS for collectors who collect stamp booklets.



Figure 1
Austrian 5 heller



8.

Figure 3
Austrian 5 heller



Figure 2
reduced



Figure 4

MEET WOLFGANG FRITZSCHE

Do you receive our sales and exchange books either through the circuit or at the home of a friend? If so, thank Wolfgang Fritzsche who has been doing it for 46 years and who has been with our Society almost since its inception.

Fritzsche is a man of many talents. Born in Saxony and educated in Germany and Italy, he was often referred to in his youth as a "walking camera." In fact, photography was his first serious hobby. It all started in Milan where he went to work for a professional photographer. He bought a camera, learned to do his own developing and launched himself on a life of picture-taking.

In 1928, he moved to this country and joined the Merchant Marine as a radio operator. With his radio background, he obtained employment with Western Electric as production manager in its radar plant in Jersey City, New Jersey.

After World War II, he embarked on a career with the New York State Labor Department. By the time he retired in 1970, he was manager of the Canandaigua Employment and Unemployment Insurance Office.

Two years after arriving in the United States, he married Louise Hecker, whom he had known in Germany since 1922. As his wife and constant companion, she accompanied him on his many world-wide excursions. One of his favorite trips was to Kenya and other parts of Africa. There he did some big-game shooting — with his camera, of course. As often happens when a person divides his interests between two major hobbies, there can be some frustrating moments. On a journey he and his wife took to the Orient, he brought with him a box which he thought contained an ample supply of film. When he reached his destination at Singapore, he was amazed to find he had mistakenly taken a box containing part of a postal stationary collection. To defray the cost of a new supply of film (which was then expensive in that part of the world), he sold a few of his postal stationary items and continued with his picture-taking expedition.

As President of the Twin Cities Camera Club in Shortville, N.Y., he started and was very successful in giving travelog presentations with his many slides.

In his philatelic endeavors, he divided his time for a number of years between the Germany Philatelic Society (for whom he held member number 2) and ours (as member number 26). In both, he operated their sales and exchange divisions with quiet but firm dispatch.



As a collector, he is a postal stationary expert and has cooperated with Edward Fladung in compiling listings for the Higgins and Gage catalog. His postal stationary collections include the U.S., Canada, Canal Zone, Hawaii, Germany, Italy, Spain, Trieste, Yugoslavia, Croatia and Hungary. Some of his collections won awards at international shows including PRAGA 1978. Lately he has disposed of almost half of them and considers selling or auctioning off some more.

Our Society salutes a man who, though born and raised in Germany and specializing in German Colonies and German Navy Mail, has devoted himself in recent years to the managing and maintaining of our Society's sales and exchange circuit in an efficient and unselfish manner that evokes envy among other Societies and philatelic groups. In gratitude, the present Board of Directors has appointed him an honorary member effective this year.

TEREZÍN WORK BRIGADES

By Dr. P. Gebauer and Eng. P. Blaha

Translated by Jaroslav J. Verner

Events in the Terezín (Theriesenstadt) Ghetto during the Nazi occupation is one of the saddest chapters of Czechoslovakia's history. In a postal sense, Terezín immediately calls to mind a number of unusual methods of delivering mail. Without a doubt, the delivery method best known to collectors is the despatch of packages to Terezín using the special access stamp (Notes 1 & 2). Also generally known, though still not properly researched and written up in our specialized literature, is the unusual method of transmitting mail in both directions via the Jewish Council of Elders in Praha (Note 5); and finally the internal postal contact within Terezín (Note 4). However, the curiosities of Terezín's postal history do not end here. In the following lines we wish to call the reader's attention to a little known phenomenon — postal communications with members of the Terezín external work brigades.

By way of introduction, it should be noted that it was never the Nazis' intention to create widespread or permanent prisoner settlements outside Terezín. The despatch of small work groups beyond the concentration camp came about entirely from the initiative of the Terezín Jewish Governing Council, which pursued two objectives: to show the usefulness of the Terezín prisoners to the Third Reich and thus to weaken, or more accurately to delay, the "liquidation" program ("transportation"); and to enable groups of young people to be in a less restrictive, freer, atmosphere outside Terezín, even if for only a short time. The Council was able to realize these goals only to a very limited degree since only a limited number of small groups were able to function outside Terezín for very short time periods.

Following are the details available regarding the despatch of these work groups:

1. The first work group left Terezín on February 26, 1942. It was comprised of 100 men who were sent to the mines at Kladno. Another 200 men left on March 16, 1942, for the mines at Motycine and Dubi (Eichen) near Kladno (Note 5). The number of workers in the "Klado Kommando" progressively dwindled until June 22, 1943, when the last three men returned to Terezín.
2. One hundred men were sent to the mines at Oslavane (the Kukla firm) on April 4, 1942, and the last of these returned to Terezín on August 30, 1943.
3. On April 10, 1942, 1002 women and girls left for Křivoklát (Purglitz) to work in the forests. The last 918 returned to Terezín on June 6, 1942.
4. Sixty men were sent to Českí Budějovice on April 13, 1942, for road construction work. The last 39 but one of these returned to Terezín on September 25, 1942. The last individual was returned only on June 23, 1943.
5. On September 15, 1942, 48 men were sent to the estate of Rheinhardt Heydrich's widow in Jungfern Breschen to be agricultural laborers. In this case the number of men involved progressively increased until it reached 110. The last 30 returned from there on February 2, 1944.
6. Two hundred men left on March 2, 1944, for construction of barracks in Wulkow near Berlin. The largest number of men at this construction site was 281 prisoners and the last of them were returned to Terezín on February 10, 1945.

7. Again for the purpose of constructing barracks, 102 men left during March and April of 1945: between the 11th and 22nd of March three small transports consisting of a total of 61 men were sent to Schnarchenreuth in Bavaria. On April 10 an additional 41 men left Terezín for Regensburg, where they remained only 4 days. All of the 102 prisoners were returned to Terezín on April 20, 1945.

The arrangements that were made for the Work Komandos to send mail to relatives and friends in Terezín is especially interesting. It is known (Note 4) that correspondence was authorized by, and indeed took place with the assistance of, the Terezín Administration. Delivery of the mail was certainly by couriers (Note 3). Fig. 1 shows a post card sent from Terezín on July 4, 1942, to a prisoner working in the Oslavansky mines. This post card did not pass through the Protectorate mails and carries the markings of a specialized delivery system (the so-called "Gettopost"):

1. The censorship marking (Z in the frame) with the hand written number of the censor;

2. The single lined "GETTOPOST" handstamp. Two hand stamp types are known. The first is 33 mm long, was put together with letters from a child's printing set and was used to mark mail until October 1942 (Fig. 1). From November 1942 on a second type

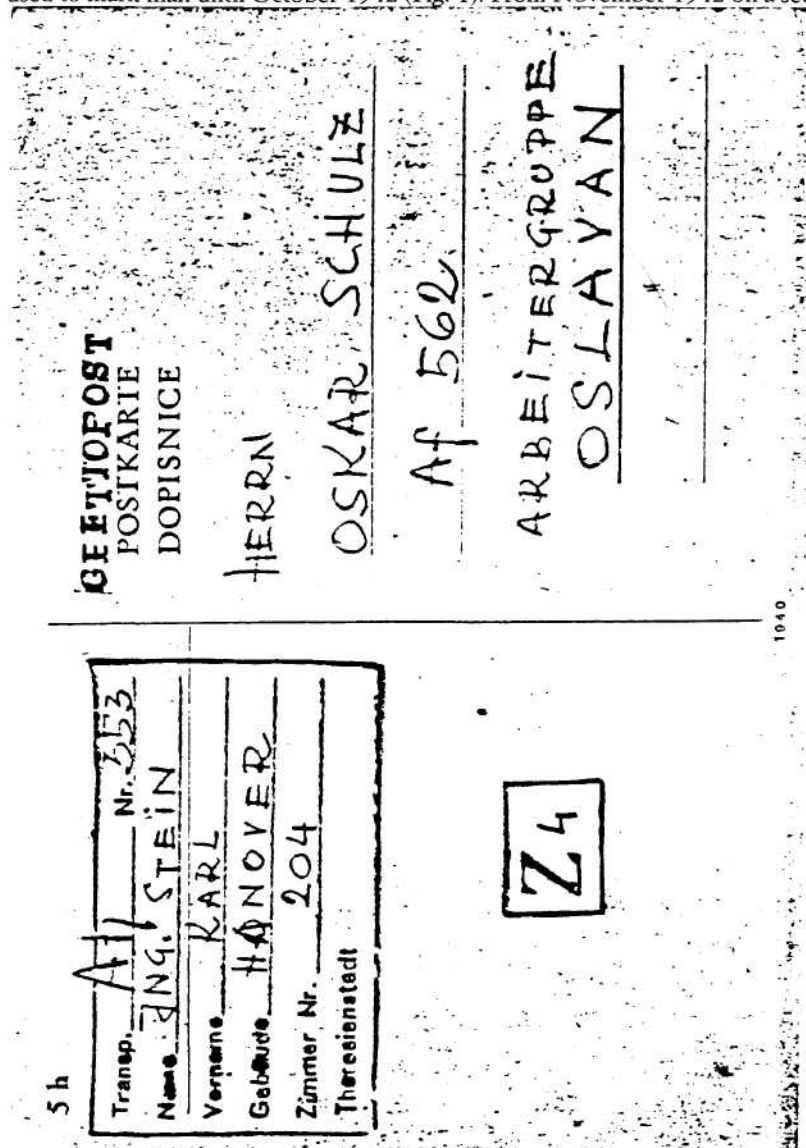


Figure 1

appears, 29 mm in length, which was also put together with individual letters (Fig. 2). In approximately April of 1943 the stamps ceased being used, though after that time "gettopost" written by hand does appear on covers albeit infrequently.

3. A hand stamp indicating the specifics needed for the return address, i.e.:
 - a. Identification of the "Transport" ("Transp.") with which the prisoner was brought to Terezín and the number of the prisoner in that transport ("Nr."). The transport was identified by two letters, such as "Ah." These letters together with the prisoner's number in that transport served as the prisoner's identification number (see Fig. 1);

Postkarte GHETTOPOST
HERRN

OSKAR SCHULZ
AF 562

OSLAVAN
ARBEITERGRUPPE

Transp. AH Nr. 334
Nachname STEIN
Vorname CHARLOTTE
Gebäude H.V.
Zimmer Nr. 78
Theresienstadt

Z 211

Omega' Segen-St. 1000'

Figure 2

REMEMBER!
PRAGA '88 IS JUST ONE YEAR AWAY!!

- b. Family name ("Name") and first name ("Vorname");
- c. Name of the barracks in which the prisoner was housed ("Gebaude"). Between July 1, 1942, and July 31, 1943, this information was registered using a code, i.e. B IV for the Hannover Barracks (see Fig. 3);
- d. Room number ("Zimmer Nr.).

Normally this stamp was applied to the post cards prior to their cards being submitted for mailing. Not all three of the handstamps are present on all covers to or from the Work Brigades. Those listed as 2 and 3 above are often missing (Fig. 3). But in all cases the censorship marking had to be affixed. It is this marking, somewhat paradoxically, that attests to the fact that a cover actually went through the special delivery system between Terezín and the work brigades.

Transp. <i>B</i>	Mr. <i>828</i>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <i>Z</i>₃ </div>	<i>AF 562</i>	<i>Vskar Schulz</i>	<i>Brigadegruppe</i>	<i>OSLAWAN</i>	<i>Chetlopost 1: 2007</i>
Name <i>FISCHHOFF</i>							
Vorname <i>ERNST</i>							
Gebäude <i>E7</i>							
Zimmer Nr. <i>56</i>							
Stempelstadt							

Salpra č. 300.

Figure 3

On the basis of the above information it is possible to reply to a recently posed question by Ing. Vostatek (Note 6) regarding the genuineness of the card illustrated in the February 3, 1985, issue of *Filatelie* (Note 7). The cover in question is a partial forgery, that is, an altered cover. The basic cover was a genuine post card sent from Terezín to the work brigade in Křivoklát and bears all three of the genuine markings. The forger apparently decided to "improve" the cover by adding another marking. The fake marking

"Rückantwort nur auf Post-
karten in deutscher Sprache
über den Ältestenrat der
Juden in Prag V, Philipp
de Monte Gasse 18"

has been noted since the Fall of 1982 on various Terezín covers offered in West Germany (Note 8). It has also made an appearance in Czechoslovakia.

One as yet unresolved question concerns the contact of the members of the Work Brigades with the outside world. Of the Oslavan camp it is known that "... mail was controlled only at the beginning, and then only haphazardly. Later it was entirely free" (Note 9). The authors have seen (illustration unavailable) a post card from a member of a work brigade in Zossenau addressed to Brno. The post card, which was mailed from the post office Berlin-Charlottenburg 2 on June 23, 1944, bears the marking

"Rückantwort nur auf
Postkarten in deutscher Sprache"

(Reply only on a post card in the German language). It can be surmised from this that contact with the outside world was easier for members of the work brigades than with other Terezín inmates and took place via the normal civilian mail system.

If we compare the mail of the work brigades with the entire population that passed through Terezín (approximately 150,000), and if we consider that only about 15% of that number survived, it is necessary to conclude from the available documents that a very small number of prisoners who had been members of the work brigades survived the war (Note 9). To date the actual existence of covers from some of the work camps is unknown and exist in theory only. It is now up to the readers to add to our knowledge of these fascinating documents which, without question, deserve our attention. (Note: the translator will be pleased to forward to the authors any additional information readers may have available on this subject.)

NOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

¹B. Malir, "Baliky do Terezína" (Packages to Terezín), *Filatelie*, p. 46, No. 2, 1982.

²B. Halir, "Terezín — další zajímavosti" (Terezín — additional interesting items), *Filatelie*, p. 200, No. 7, 1982.

³V. Schiebl, "Pošta z Terezína" (Mail from Terezín), *Katalog krajské výstavy poštovních známek Znojmo 1976*, p. 29.

⁴H. G. Adler, *Theresienstadt 1941–1945*, J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck), Tübingen 1960.

⁵K. Lagus, J. Polak, *Město za mřížemi* (City behind Barbed Wire), NV-SPB, Praha, 1964.

⁶Dr. M. Vostatek, "Židovské pracovní komando na Křivokláte" (Jewish Work Brigades at Křivoklát), *Filatelie*, p. 132, No. 5, 1986.

⁷Dr. M. Vostatek, "Pošta z ghettá Terezín" (Mail from the Terezín Ghetto), *Filatelie*, p. 89, No. 3, 1985.

⁸H. H. Paetow, "Stempelfälschungen auf Postkarten und Paketbestätigungskarten im Verkehr mit dem Ghetto Theresienstadt (Fake Markings on Post Cards and Package Receipt Forms for Communication with the Terezín Ghetto)," *Beilage 68, MB1*, 59.

⁹J. Marek, "Mezi dvěma frontami" (Between Two Fronts), *Vestník žid. obcí* 1967, p. 9, No. 8.

I also wish to thank J. Stein for his translation of the above article; as Jaroslav Verner's arrived first and had illustrations, I have used his.

Editor

CZECHOSLOVAKS DESIGN STAMPS OF THE WORLD

By RNDr Miroslav Vostatek — Translated by Paul Sturman

Citizens of Czechoslovakia have established a niche for themselves in designing postage stamps for the world. Their creations are featured in numerous countries and are attracting full attention of the philatelic public. I should like to discuss these persons, at least briefly, and thank them for representing the good name of Czechoslovakia.

The great artist Otto Walish deserves first mention. This native of Czechoslovakia for numerous years designed stamps for Israel; in fact, from the beginnings of the state in 1948 until 1963. It was through his design that Israel's stamps attained a high level of attractiveness.

Master designer Otto Walish was born in Znojmo as the son of an exporter of Znojmo pickles, he studied in Znojmo and Brno. He loved his Moravia and never forgot his native tongue. For numerous years he was active in Tel Aviv and Herzlty. Some of his projected designs alluded to the Republic of Czechoslovakia. According to his records, he also created several semi-postals for some of the African states. He died in May 1977.

His successor as a renowned designer of Israel stamps was also born in Czechoslovakia. The artist-creator, Chava Ornan, was born in Police nad Metují on June 9, 1930. Her original name was Eva Fürth. As a 10-year-old girl, she was taken by the Nazis to a concentration camp and through the years of occupation she was shifted through a number of camps. When in 1945 she returned to her native town, she was the only survivor of her 35-member family group and stood alone at the gravesite of the dearest members of her family. Afterwards she emigrated to Israel and attended a school for arts in Jerusalem. Despite her excruciating experiences in concentration camps, she chose an artistic career. For a while she was active in the United States. Later, as far as can be determined, she created four series of stamps for Israel during 1962–1964.

The influence of Czechoslovakia is also to be found on Ethiopian stamps. For several years Miroslava Inka-Treska, born in Praha, lived in Addis-Abbaba. Her husband taught at a technical university. As a graduate of the Praha Graphic Design School, she participated in several competitions for designs of Ethiopian stamps and was always a winner. As a result, six series of Ethiopian stamps were issued bearing her name as designer.

For July 4, 1960, a stamp was issued in the United States bearing the stars and stripes. The designer was Joseph Vrtel born in Czechoslovakia. As an officer in WWI he settled in this country and was active as a designer for several years.

Another such artist was Adolf Václav Malíř. Born on July 17, 1891, in Kralupy, he emigrated to Uruguay in 1926 and for many years worked hard at his creative art. He designed several series of Uruguayan stamps. The best known is his airmail design with Pegasus, and a series of stamps in 1933 commemorating the sailings of Christopher Columbus. A.V. Malíř died shortly after the end of WWII in 1946.

In the neighboring country of Austria there lives a native of Czechoslovakia named Professor Alfred Chmielowski. He was born in 1896 in Olomouc and was designing Austrian stamps from 1945 to 1956. His involvement in the design of Austrian stamps is prolific and consists of ten series including designs of first day covers.

In another neighboring nation, Eastern Germany, two Czechoslovak-born artists are among that country's creators of stamps. During the years 1951 to 1953, several series of stamps were designed by Karl Wolf, who was born in Chudemice near Klatov. Besides Wolf, Walter Womačka also designed stamps for Eastern Germany. Born on December 22, 1925, in Horní Jiřetín at Most in Bohemia, he studied in Teplice/Šanov. Today he is active in Berlin and has already designed several series of stamps and continues his endeavors in his chosen field.

Several series of stamps for the United Nations were designed by an artist named Kurt Plowitz. He was born in Karlový Vary and studied in Praha. His designs were made during 1956–1964. The artist also created a set of stamps for Granada depicting "famous pirates."

Undoubtedly there are and will be others in the production of designs for stamps of the world whose ancestors can be traced to Czechoslovakia. For example in Canada, the name of Jaroslav Huta began to appear recently. He was born on June 26, 1940, in Chorvátská Nová Ves near Břeclav.

In conclusion I should like to thank my countrymen for their fine work and for spreading Czechoslovakia, its artistic and cultural heritage through their philatelic creations.

NEW ISSUES

By G. M. van Zanten — Courtesy A. Hujer
Translation by V. Kralíček

CZECHOSLOVAK BOWLING UNION

One 2 Kčs stamp was issued on Jan. 22, 1987, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Czechoslovak bowling union, it bears the inscription: "50th anniversary of the foundation of the bowling union in ČSSR 1987." Design was by Vladimír Hájek, engraving by Josef Herčík.

The pictorial part of the stamp measures 23×30mm.

Printing was by the Post Office Printing works in Prague with rotary recess print (blue), combined with three color recess print (brown, red and yellow).

NATURE PROTECTION — BUTTERFLIES

On March 4, 1987, a series of commemorative stamps was issued depicting butterflies.

The designer of the full set was Kamila Štanclová. Pictorial part of the stamps is 40×23mm; printing by the Post Office Printing works in Prague employing the rotary recess print, combined with four-color recess print in sheets of 50 stamps.

With the set came two First Day Covers.

- 1 Kčs — *Limnitis populi*. Black, blue, red, yellow and brown. Engraving Josef Herčík.
- 2 Kčs — *Smerinthus ocellatus*. Black, red, brown, green and blue. Engraving Václav Fajt.
- 3 Kčs — *Pericallia matronula*. Black, red, brown, yellow and green. Engraving Václav Fajt.
- 4 Kčs — *Saturnia pyri*. Black, red, brown, blue and yellow. Engraving Josef Herčík.



NUCLEAR ENERGY — ČSSR 1987

A 5 Kčs stamp was issued on April 6, 1987, to publicise Nuclear Energy. The stamp shows a symbolic drawing and is supplemented with the text "Nuclear Energy — ČSSR — 1987.

The design was by Vladimír Hájek and the engraving was by Miloš Ondráček.

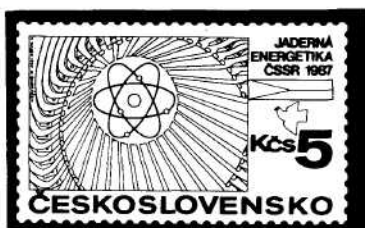
The pictorial part of the stamp measures 40×23mm. Printing by the Post Office Printing works in Prague employing rotary recess print in dark blue, combined with four colour recess print in gold, blue, red and grey in sheets of 50 stamps.

XI TRADE UNION CONGRESS — ROH

A 1 Kčs stamp was issued to commemorate the 11th Congress, it features a stylized emblem complemented by the above text.

Design was by Vladimír Hájek and engraving was entrusted to Miloš Ondráček.

The pictorial part of the stamp measures 30×23mm, printing was done at the Post Office Printing works in Prague employing the rotary recess print in combination with four color recess print in sheets of 50 stamps.



REMEMBER!
PRAGA '88 IS JUST ONE YEAR AWAY!!

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

(USPS 8083(X))

Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

A.P.S. Unit 18

Vol. XLIX

September 1987

No. 7, Whole No. 471

Published monthly except July and August - \$15.00 per year

Second Class Postage Paid at Ord, Nebraska 68862
and additional mailing offices.

Editor: Gerald M. van Zanten, P.O. Box 159, Napier, New Zealand

President: Mirko L. Vondra, 1511 Clearview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601

Vice President: Henry Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor Lane, Fairfax, VA 22031

Secretary: Joseph J. Janecka, 7306 Ogden Ave., Riverside, IL 60546

International Secretary: Edward Lisý, 87 Carmita Avenue, Rutherford, NJ 07070

Librarian: Richard Palaschak, Qtrs # 7, Lake City AAP, Independence, MO 64050

Treasurer: Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

Advertising Manager: Dominick J. Riccio, 235 W 76th St., New York, NY 10023

Expertizing Chmn: Edwin W. Lehecka, 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield NJ 07090

Circuit Manager: Wolfgang Fritzsche, Box 8, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Changes of address to International Secretary

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM SOCIETY

FORGERIES OF CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAGE STAMPS

The English translation edition is fully illustrated and contains a wealth of detail for detecting forgeries of First Republic issues.

Postpaid \$22.50

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

HRADČANY by Jan Karasek

A useful handbook for the Hradčany specialist. In Czech language.

Postpaid \$7.50

STAMPS WITH A PORTRAIT OF T.G. MASARYK

By Henry Hahn and published by the Society. A handbook on all Czech stamps showing Masaryk with background information. In English.

Postpaid \$2.00

A HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE OF POSTAL SERVICE — TELČ

By Henry Hahn and published by the Society. Postal history of the Telč area in Moravia. In English.

Postpaid \$5.00

1963-73 SUBJECT INDEX OF SPECIALIST and HIGGINS & GAGE POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOG

Contains a 10-year index of SPECIALIST articles and the 1974 edition of Higgins & Gage postal stationery Czechoslovak section, fully illustrated and in English.

Postpaid \$6.00

All Available Postpaid from:

Society for Czechoslovak Philately
217 Hazel Avenue
Westfield, New Jersey 07090

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM SOCIETY

FORGERIES OF CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAGE STAMPS

The English translation edition is fully illustrated and contains a wealth of detail for detecting forgeries of First Republic issues.

Postpaid \$22.50

We have a limited number of Exhibit Catalogs of various Czech stamp exhibitions. Many have extensive articles on all aspects of Czech philately, in addition to exhibit information.

PRAGA 1978 In six languages, including English. \$12.50

SOCFILEX 76 - PRAHA In Czech and Russian. \$3.50

SOCFILEX 81 - BRATISLAVA In Czech and Russian. \$3.50

ZNOJMO 1976 In Czech and Russian. \$3.50

Several other Czech language books relating to philately are also available:

FILATELISTICKÝ MARATÓN by Jiri Nováček. Published to commemorate PRAGA 1968. \$12.50

FILATELISTOVO PODZIMNÍ ROZJIMANÍ by Vaclav Nebesky. Published in 1975, contains various articles. \$12.00

SVĚT FILATELIE by František Švarc. Various articles on world philately scene. Published in 1982. \$7.50

All Available Postpaid from:

Society for Czechoslovak Philately
217 Hazel Avenue
Westfield, New Jersey 07090

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

(USPS 806300)

**2936 Rosemoor Lane
Fairfax, VA 22030**

Second Class
Postage Paid
Ord. Nebraska 68862
and additional
mailing offices.
