

THE CZECHO-SLOVAK SPECIALIST



OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
THE CZECHO-SLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

Vol. 1

December, 1939

No. 8

Convention Plans Pushed As Chipex Date Nears

In addition to the article on the Chipex in the November issue of *The Specialist*, it now comes to light that not only will the Czecho organization be represented very prominently in the exhibit itself (with 20 frames to be entered under the Society's name) but several members will exhibit individually. It is therefore expected that the Czecho-Slovak section will be the largest of the entire show.

Frank Voticky (No. 40) will show 20 frames and several volumes of his world-famous plate number collection which has won top honors in Czecho-Slovak national expositions. It is

These features will be divulged in other issues.

All or most of the Chicago members of the Society will be present at Chipex and it is expected that a number of New York members will also be present.

So that the Secretary can have an approximate picture of the prospective attendance of Society members at Chipex, will those who intend to be present please drop a card to Mr. Lowey? This request also includes Chicagoans.

In the convention number of *The Specialist*, which will appear a few days ahead of Chipex, those members who will be present in Chicago will be listed.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

All of the officers of the Society join in wishing every member a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and the best possible good fortune for 1940.

practically complete, housed in 27 large, de luxe, albums, and contains plate number blocks of four throughout. The gems of the collection, consisting of the Presidential types of 1925-27 will be shown complete, including all types and eight different watermarks. The outstanding pieces of this latter classification is the 3K value, plate number "Anna."

Several interesting features will be offered those who attend the convention of The Society, which is being held in conjunction with Chipex.

TREASURER CALLS FOR 1940 DUES

Membership dues for the coming year will be due on Jan. 1, 1940. The dues are, according to the constitution, \$2, and for all members who joined between the dates of June 30, 1939 and Dec. 31, 1939, \$1. Dues for associate members (residents of countries other than the United States and Canada) are \$2.

All dues must be paid by the last day of January, 1940, or individuals will be dropped from the membership rolls.

Dues should be sent by money order or check to the Society treasurer:

Guy Greenawalt, 2301 Cathedral Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

**Officers of the Czecho-Slovak
Philatelic Society of
North America**

President: George F. Smyth, 945 Main St., Bridgeport, Conn.

First Vice-President: Fred W. Peters, 500 Warwick Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Second Vice-President: F. R. Ferryman, 505 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Secretary: J. W. Lowey, 201 Marcy Place, Bronx, N. Y.

Treasurer: Guy Greenawalt, 2301 Cathedral Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.

Librarian: J. M. Stephen, 37 Queensdale Ave., Toronto, Canada.

Editor, The Specialist: Tod Raper, 1553 Clifton Ave., Columbus, O.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

Middle-west: Frank Kovarik, 2502 South Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Ill.

South: C. J. Pearce, 2833 N. W. Thirteenth St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

East: Mr. Lowey.

AUDITING COMMITTEE

W. G. Slocum, 32 Sixth Ave., Room 1561, New York City.

Frank Voticky, 52 Clark St., Brooklyn, New York.

Chairman of Rules Committee: Frank Kovarik.

New Issue Service (Bohemia-Moravia)—C. J. Pearce, 2833 N. W. 13th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

Advertising Rates

| | One Insertion | Six Insertions | Twelve Insertions |
|------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Page . | \$5 | \$4.50 | \$4.00 |
| ½ Page . | \$4 | \$3.50 | \$3.00 |
| ¼ Page . | \$2.75 | \$2.25 | \$2.00 |
| 1/8 Page . | \$1 | .85 | .75 |
| 1/16 Page. | .85 | .75 | .50 |

Adlets (for members' wants, exchanges, sales, etc.): 1 cent per word. Stamps accepted in payment under 25 words; over 25 words, cash, money order, etc.

New Members

No. 52. Rudolph Secky, 9919 43rd Ave., Corona, L. I., N. Y.

No. 53. Clayton E. Brown, 25 Hampden St., West Springfield, Mass.

Rudolph J. Zoudlik, Member No. 51, has asked that his address be changed to: care of Mr. Schiesser, Sr., Poplar St., Essex, Maryland.

**RATES ON ADVERTISING
SLASHED MATERIALLY**

Attention of advertisers who use The Czecho-Slovak Specialist as a medium is directed to the Society's new advertising rates, printed elsewhere in this issue. Rates on all advertising except adlets has been lowered materially, and it is hoped that the advertisers will profit by this change.

It is the intention of the Society to publish The Specialist with a minimum of expense, and any profits resulting from the publication of the monthly magazine will be turned back into the printing budget. If this policy is successful The Specialist will immediately reflect its success in increased features and interest.

Patronize our advertisers!

**DEALER'S APPLICATION
REJECTED BY SOCIETY**

The Society has regretfully rejected an application sent by a Hollywood, Calif., stamp dealer, after the Board of Vice-Presidents reported that the applicant is on the black list of the American Stamp Dealers' association.

The Society takes this step not only for its protection and for the protection of its members, but also in the spirit of fairness to its advertisers. If the applicant in question is ever given a clean bill by the A. S. D. A., then his application will be considered.

In dealing with advertisers who use The Specialist as an advertising medium, members of the Society not only are assured of honest dealing, but also that they are dealing with merchants that offer the best resources possible.

Patronize our advertisers!

EXCHANGE IS WANTED

G. N. Allen, philatelic columnist, has asked if there are any members of The Society who wishes to exchange Czecho-Slovakia—or other adjacent countries—with his eight-year old daughter, Sylvia, through her father. Interested members may write to Mr. Allen before sending exchanges at 2 Brewster road, Hanover, N. H.

CONSTITUTION CHANGES SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED

Several changes have been suggested for the Society's constitution before its final adoption. These changes, which are listed below, were suggested by Dr. Reiner-Deutsch, and if no objections are received by the Secretary to the contrary, will be incorporated in the constitution immediately. The suggestions are:

1. As two Vice-Presidents are mentioned in the constitution, and only one exists, another Vice-President should be appointed. (F. R. Ferryman, Member No. 7, will hereafter fill the position of second Vice-President)

2. The Society has a rules committee but nothing is said about it in the constitution. (The rules committee shall be appointed every year by the President in office.)

3. The Society has a nominating committee appointed by the President each year, and the nominations by individual members is not practiced. Let at least five members propose names for nominations and these will be handed to the nominating committee. The committee will also nominate officers itself. The last paragraph of Article V, Section 2, should be re-written so that prospective officers shall be asked before nomination by the nominating committee whether they would be willing to serve.

Two names have been proposed for the Society's auditing committee. They are: W. G. Slocum, Member No. 29, and Frank Voticky, Member No. 40.

MEMBERS ARE HONORED

During a recent exhibition sponsored by the Cicero-Berwyn Club of Chicago, three of our members have run off with honors in their group, first award and Cup going to John Velek, second prize to August Hrivnak and third prize to Fred W. Peters.

The American Philatelic Society at its last convention held in San Francisco has awarded second prize to our secretary for his article "Czecho-Slovakia Specialized" which appeared in the American Philatelist in October-November-December, 1938.

Society Sponsors Exhibition Sheet

A souvenir exhibition sheet, sponsored by The Czecho-Slovak Philatelic Society of North America, which will surpass anything of this sort ever issued by a philatelic group, will be one of the features of the Society's participation in Chipex, in Chicago, Feb. 16, 17, 18; 1940.

Now in preparation by Members F. R. Ferryman and J. W. Lowey, the sheet's purpose is to publicize The Society to the visitors at the Chicago Philatelic Exhibition and Bourse, which is being given under the auspices of the Central Federation of Stamp Clubs in the Hotel La Salle. Members of the Society will each be mailed free a copy of the sheet, with a serial number on the sheet corresponding to the respective member's membership number.

The sheet will be the approximate size of the Czecho Masaryk and Child sheet, and will be printed in three colors. The Society's name will be printed at the top in gold; on the bottom will be the exhibition name, date and place, and on the two sides, "Chipex, 1940." Below the Society name will be printed (in carmine) the design taken from the Scout issues (lion), and below this will be printed Scott No. 120 in steel blue. The sheet will have small, golden stars scattered over it. It will be issued in imperforate form only.

The Society will sell sheets to its own members, if they are wanted, and will also have all sales rights of the sheets at Chipex. The tentative price of the sheets is one dime apiece.

NEW ISSUES

BOHEMIA-MORAVIA:

Two new items have appeared in October. Of the usual larger size, they are:

3K violet, view of the Bata Shoe plant in Zlin.

4K green, industrial view of Moravska Ostrava.

We have received the following information from our usually reliable correspondent at Prague which says:

The German authorities have lately issued several bulletins pertaining to the export of new issues. These are

rather severe on both Czech dealers and foreign collectors. After this, the dealer has to apply for a permit to fill each individual order from foreign countries, be it even for one single stamp. For each permit a fee has to be paid according to the amount involved. Furthermore the dealer has to charge the customer 100 percent over face value. And finally, dealers are not permitted to export stamps to foreign countries, unless they have received the purchasing amount in advance."

If this state should remain a permanent one for the duration of the war then it can be expected that we

will see very little of new issues in times to come.

On the other hand, however, it is our personal opinion that we should take our Prague correspondents report with several grains of salt. We base our optimism upon the fact that whenever new issues appear within German territory, that large quantities are smuggled across its borders and finally find their way to our shores. This is usually accomplished in such a way that the smuggling parties have been able to get around German restrictions regarding monetary exchange.

J. W. L.

THE "HRADCANY" ISSUE OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIA OF 1918

By J. W. LOWEY

Reprinted from The American Philatelist, Vol. 52, Nos. 6, 7.)

INTRODUCTION

Americans are proud of their vast country and its history. They cherish the memory of its great men of the past. The eventful deeds of their leaders Washington, Lincoln, Monroe, and others have been inscribed on the shield of American history in shining golden letters, to remain there, ever lasting and ever reminding of days never to be forgotten, preserved for posterity and to be upheld by coming generations.

There are many other nations in this world, large and small, but no matter how small and unknown the history of a little country may look to others,—to themselves it is a national shrine, guiding its destinies and providing an eternal source of consciousness of a great past and a driving power for its leaders, instilling happy thoughts of a glorious future.

We have to realize all this and take it into consideration, when we speak of the Hradcany Issue, the first postal release of Czech-Slovakia in 1918.

Up to then being a province of a mighty empire, the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, shorn of its own power during past centuries, there only remained one solace to the citizens: memories of the past and never dying hopes of national resurrection.

In 1918, after 300 years of foreign rule, the Czecho-Slovak nation regained its liberty.

Among the many problems which faced the nation was the issuance of its own adhesives, which up to then had been printed by the Austrian government. The Czecho-Slovak postal authorities, realizing that stamps could be a perfect medium to spread the gospel of liberation to the world, did a very wise thing. They selected and commissioned Alfons Mucha, one of the foremost artists and also a recognized authority of the history of his country, to design the first issue.

Unfortunately the cheap method used in printing the stamps, the inadequacy of printing facilities and other shortcomings prevented the beauty and symbols, which Mucha had striven to incorporate into his design, from showing to better advantage.

To understand fully the symbols of his design it is of absolute necessity to know the history of Czecho-Slovakia. To the general collector, who is more or less concerned in filling empty album spaces, history and the finer things are of minor importance. The serious student, however, will use all available data to make each individual page a collection in itself. The more serious and earnest he is, the better written up his pages will be, a source of joy and pride for himself and help and enlightenment to others. Neither will ever tire of turning over such album pages again and again.

(To be Continued)