

THE CZECHO-SLOVAK SPECIALIST



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

Vol. 2

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No. 3

FELLOW MEMBERS:

With this issue we are again resuming publication of the Specialist. Due to unfortunate circumstances it became necessary to make a change in the Editorial department of the Society. Recently a bulletin was sent to all the members explaining the delay in getting out the Specialist and that a new Editor is being appointed. It is with this issue that the new Editor wishes to introduce himself.

This month the Society celebrates the first anniversary of its formation. It has grown; not in leaps and bounds, but steadily until at this time it has a membership list of 53 members. The advantages of the Society are many and it is the sincere desire of the Editor to encourage the members to make use of the various departments. This issue of the Specialist contains a complete list of the members, a list that embraces collectors from every walk of life.

We would like to call attention to the fact that with this issue a new schedule of rates for advertising is being established, the rates are lower and should prove attractive to every one. The rates for adlets remain the same, one cent a word, and members are urged to make use of this department. Perhaps you are looking for a particular item for your collection, an adlet inserted in one issue of the Specialist will reach every member and surely some one is bound to have the particular item you want.

Then there is the Library which is maintained by Mr. Stephen, every member interested in the stamps of Czechoslovakia will, at some time or

other, want information on certain issues and for that reason should not hesitate to take advantage of the literature available.

Also remember the Expertising committee, there is Mr. Kovarik in Chicago, Mr. Pearce in Oklahoma City and Mr. Lowey in New York. An inquiry to any one of these members is sure to bring you the information you desire whether it be on a single stamp or a group of stamps, both on or off cover.

The Specialist is your publication and your direct contact with the members of the Society. Its growth depends upon how you make use of it and upon the growth of the Society. Naturally the growth of the Society depends upon an increasing membership. Activity in our Society can only be stimulated by correspondence being carried on between the members and the benefits derived therefrom usually prove mutual and result in happy relations. Every member is urged to be on the lookout for prospective members and must not hesitate to ask them to join the Society where they will find real enjoyment with others who collect, study and appreciate this particular branch of the most interesting of hobbies.

If you have any suggestions for the betterment of the Society or the Specialist, or if you have any articles or bits of news on our branch of the hobby send them to the Editor. Tell him what you would like to see in the Specialist, it's your magazine so please do not hesitate to make use of it.

The Editor.

HOW THEY STARTED

Recently one of our members called upon me while he was on a visit in New York City and in the course of conversation told me a strange story, one of how he started to specialize in the stamps of Czechoslovakia.

I am not going to reveal his name but in giving you the story I shall call him "Dr. X," since he is a physician.

At the time of the following episode Dr. X was on the staff of a Hospital in the south and devoted much of his spare time to stamp collecting in a general manner.

One day, while making the usual round in his ward, the Doctor came upon a patient who complained that the long idle hours bothered him more than his illness and wanted advice as to how to while the time away. The doctor suggested reading or puzzles and other things, but the patient's interest could not be aroused. He believed some hobby of an educational sort was what he wanted and added that he had collected stamps in his youth. Did the doctor believe that he should take it up again? The physician agreed that he should and added that he would help him get started, knowing the patient to be of small means.

That afternoon on his way home the doctor remembered his promise and stopping at a dealer's office purchased a packet of the 1000 varieties type for a dollar.

Later that evening he remembered the purchase. He also recollected his own days as a beginner of stamp collecting and how he had received a similar packet as a gift. Just for the sake of seeing what the present generation was getting for a dollar he opened the packet and poured the contents upon his study table. His fingers rambled through the pile of German inflation stamps, Seebecks, Mission material, reprints and similar items until he suddenly stopped. He saw a stamp which most collectors had in their album, even a beginner, and yet, though Dr. X could not say what made him single out this particular stamp, something vague told him that there was some discrepancy between this stamp and a similar one he had in his own collection.

He fetched one of his albums and opened the section Czechoslovakia.

where it was, he compared the two (continued on page 5)

Greetings and a hearty welcome are extended to the four new members:

- #57—Mr. Theodore R. Graf
 - #58—Dr. Gerhard von Glahn
 - #59—Mr. William D. Kuhns and
 - #60—Mr. John F. Stromberg,
- may they enjoy the benefits and advantages of our Society.

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, 5000 Warwick Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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

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Treasurer: Guy Greenawalt, 4000 5th Street, North, Arlington, Va.

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

Editor, The Specialist: Peter Krekcher, 42 West 110 Place, Chicago, Ill.

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.

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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.

Chairman of Judicial Board: Dr. W. Reiner-Deutsch.

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 . . .	\$3.00	\$2.75	\$2.50
½ Page . . .	1.50	1.35	1.25
¼ Page . . .	1.00	.85	.75
⅓ Page75	.65	.50
1/16 Page50	.40	.30

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.

MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE C S P S N A

- 1 J. W. Lowey, 201 Marcy Place, Bronx, N. Y.
- 2 Tod Raper, 1553 Clifton Ave., Columbus, Ohio
- 3 J. M. Stephen, 37 Queensdale Ave., Toronto, Canada.
- 4 Guy Greenawalt, 4000 — 5th St., North, Arlington, Va.
- 5 Frank J. Kovarik, 2502 S. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Illinois.
- 6 George F. Smyth, 945 Main St., Bridgeport, Conn.
- 7 F. R. Ferryman, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.
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- 11 John Velek, P. O. Box 66, Riverside, Illinois.
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- 14 Dr. S. Hoechstetter, 210 E. North Street, Dwight, Illinois.
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- 27 Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, 211 E. 19th Street, New York, N. Y.
- 28 Dr. W. R. Jaffrey, 64 Hughson Street, Hamilton, Canada.
- 29 W. G. Slocum, 32 Sixth Ave., Rm. 1561, New York, N. Y.
- 30 James Plotz, 1516 South 59th Street, Cicero, Illinois.
- 32 Joseph Janacek, 3014 S. 12th Street, Tacoma, Washington.
- 33 Dr. Ralph Ritzman, 3 Downer Place, Aurora, Illinois.
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- 36 Louis A. Ruzicka, 3006-58th Ave., Oakland, Calif.
- 37 George N. Pearce, 141 Chippewa Street, Buffalo, N. Y.
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- 41 N. Sample, Iowa Street, Fallbrook, Calif.
- 42 W. L. Russell, 13 Park Crescent, Moonee Ponds, Victoria, Australia
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- 48 Walter Veselsky, 2424 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago, Illinois.
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- 55 Felix Brunner, 166 W. 87th Street, New York, N. Y.
- 56 Ernest Berka, 5234 Dorchester Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.
- 57 Theodore R. Graf, 5404 Kansas Avenue, Washington, D. C.
- 58 Dr. Gerhard von Glahn, 2035 Adelbert Road, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 59 Wm. D. Kuhns, 400 Schenck Avenue, Dayton, Ohio.
- 60 John F. Stromberg, 2750 Bona Street, Oakland, Calif.

A SUGGESTION!

Commemorative Stamps when used on letters coming to you are always appreciated, Right? As the old saying

goes, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." May we therefore suggest that you use commemorative stamps whenever it is possible.

THE "HRADCANY" ISSUE OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIA OF 1918

By J. W. LOWEY

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

(Continued from last month)

PAPER

The issue was planned to be printed on wove paper and the majority was printed on such, though thickness and quality are varying. However, temporary shortage resulted in the use of small quantities of sheets of laid and pelure paper. In rare cases we also find toned paper. (Scott No. 40).

PERFORATION

All denominations were issued imperforate; certain ones also perforated. An exception which should briefly be mentioned here is, that the 10, 20 and 30 haleru values of Type V were to be issued perforated only, but by a mistake a relatively small amount of sheets in imperforate state was turned over to a few post offices

in provincial towns. When this mistake was noted some time later it was too late to withdraw any unsold sheets, since all had been sold to the public in the meantime.

All perforations were made on the premises of the Graficka Unie, by machines of different make. Therefore we find a large variety of perforations, both all around and compound.

Besides official perforations we find an equally large quantity of unofficial perforations. The permission to have imperforate sheets privately perforated was given by the postal authorities to banks and other large industrial organizations, which found it too tedious and a loss of time to have their employees separate imperforate sheets by use of scissors and there-

OFFICIAL PERFORATION TABLE

TYPE	VALUE	LINE		COMB	
		ALL AROUND	COMPOUND	COMPOUND	COMPOUND
I	5	11½			
I	10	11½	11½:10%		
I	20	11½, 13¾			13¾:13½
I	25	11½			13¾:13½
II	200				13¾:13½
III	1	13¾			
IV	60				11½:11¾ 13¾:13½
V	5	11½, 13¾	11½:10% 13¾:11½		11½:11¾ 13¾:13½
V	10	13¾			11½:11¾ 13¾:13½
V	15	11½ 13¾	11½:13% 11½:10% 13¾:11½		11½:11¾ 13¾:13½
V	20	13¾			13¾:13½
V	25	11½	13¾:11½ 11½:10% 13¾:10%		11½:11¾ 13¾:13½
V	30				11½:11¾
V	120	11½			

The following perforation are rarities:

Type IV. 60 hal. Comb, compound 13¾:13½

Type V. 15 hal. Line, compound 11½:13¾

Type V. 25 hal. Line, compound 13¾:10%

Type V. 30 hal. Comb, compound 13¾:13½

fore had them perforated.

The postmaster of a suburban office at Prague and those of certain provincial towns for the same reason had the entire issue perforated privately en roulette, doing this however without sanction by the Postmaster General.

COLORS

This issue abounds in color variations, especially the stamps of Type I. These discrepancies are to be attributed to two facts.

1. The speed with which the stamps were produced and the control, or better said insufficient control, connected with the distribution permitted that, relative new supply of inks was delivered proper tests were made to compare with the inks just used. When then, as in many cases, a marked difference in shades was noticed, it was usually too late to rectify the mistake, because the postal authorities were constantly pressing for delivery. The demand far surpassed the supply and for this reason the authorities paid little attention to color differences.

2. Certain pigments contained in the inks used are subject to natural change of the original color, if exposed to light or air for a length of time, but the fact was not taken into consideration in 1918. Today the postal administration of Czecho-Slovakia, just as any other, has its own laboratory and things which happened 20 years ago can no longer happen.

GUM

In the early stages of printing the gum used was of extremely poor quality, yellowish or brownish and having an acid taste. As printing progressed, the gum too was improved, finally becoming white, tasteless and acquiring the tendency to stick.

PROOFS

Color trials: For this purpose proofs were made in various colors, on paper of varying thickness and shades (grayish, bluish, pinkish, greenish, etc.) In order to determine the clearness of impression, certain denominations were printed on chalky paper.

Black Proofs: These exist of all denominations on white and grayish paper and also on white glossy cardboard.

Waste: For the layman it some-

times would be difficult to distinguish between a color trial and waste, since both were printed on the same material of paper. If the impression is clear, it probably is a color trial, but the sheet of paper, from which the single items were separated also might have been waste in its entirety. The printer, in order that the ink is spread evenly, will run the sheet through the press. He then will lay it aside, or throw it away. However he may use it again on the same denomination or on another one, in which case there will be what looks like double impressions or we will see two or more denominations and as many colors superimposed on top of each other.

The employees of the printing plant were aware of the law which said that proofs of any kind were to be destroyed. This, however, did not prevent employees from smuggling.

Only in one single instance did the government permit the leaving of proofs outside of the Graficka Unie. This happened upon the request of the Czech Philatelic Society, to whom the postal authorities had actually sold several thousands of sheets, to be resold to the members of the organization.

(to be continued)

(continued from page 2)

stamps and then consulted his Scott catalogue. Our doctor gasped, he realized he had found a genuine rarity in a dollar packet.

To make the story short the next day the patient received the packet minus the one stamp. That one stamp became the foundation of Dr. X's specialized collection of Czecho-slovakia.

The stamp was.... Scott's No. E-6 cataloguing \$7.50.

Perhaps you have a story of how you came to specialize in the stamp of Czechoslovakia that is just as strange or interesting? If that is the case, why not send your story to our Editor.

J. W. Lowey

NEW ISSUES Bohemia-Moravia

An addition to the present pictorial issue has appeared, namely; 50h blue green, in the regular small size, showing a view of Jindrichuv Hradec, or as in English, "Henry's Castle."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR THE SPECIALIST

MINT All items offered are in finest condition and mint. Numbers **MINT**
in brackets refer to the Scott catalogue. All expensive stamps
are signed by leading experts. Prices are in United States
Dollars and Cents.

REVOLUTIONARY ISSUES (REVOLUCNI VYDANI)

First Prague Issue (I prazske revolucni vydani) 21 values Complete \$20.00
Second Prague Issue (II prazske revolucni vydani) 21 values Complete \$20.00
Mares Issue (Znamky Hlubocke) 42 values Complete \$30.00
Mares Issue, Inverted Surcharge, (pretisky prevracene) 42 values cpl. \$28.00
Srobar Issue (Srobarava vydani) 30 values Complete \$35.00
Skalice Issue (Skalice vydani) 14 values Complete \$18.00
Skout Issue (Skautske znamky) — USED — 2 values Complete60
Skout Issue Overprinted "Prijezd presidenta Masaryka" 2 values cpl. \$60.00

HRADCANY ISSUE

25 h. (5b) Ultramarine \$2.50
10 h. (43a) Green, imperforate 1.00
20 h. (45a) Rose, imperforate 5.50
30 h. (47a) Light Violet, imperf. 8.00
30 h. (47a) Dark Violet, imperf. 8.50

PIGEON ISSUE (HOLUBICE)

5h. (82a) Violet, Tete Beche Pair40
5h. (82a) Violet, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter .. .45
10h. (83a) Olive, Tete Beche Pair70
10h. (83a) Olive, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter80
20h. (84a) Orange, Tete Beche Pair 3.00
20h. (84a) Orange, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter . 4.50

FREEDOM ISSUE (Osvobozena Republika)

40h (71a) Brown, Tete Beche Pair80
40h (71a) Brown, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter . 1.00
50h (86a) Green, Tete Beche Pair 7.00
50h (86a) Green, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter 11.00
60h (73a) Blue, Tete Beche Pair 1.20
60h (73a) Blue, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter 1.80

1923 JUBILEE ISSUE (Jubilijne 1923)

Complete Set (B133-136) All values in watermark position 5 ... \$4.00
Complete Set (B133-136) All values in watermark position 6 ... 8.00
Complete Set (B133-136) All values in watermark position 7 ... 4.00
Complete Set (B133-136) All values in watermark position 8 ... 6.00

The complete collection (4 sets) in all four existing watermark positions 20.00

1935 INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC CONGRESS Issue (Olympijsky Kongres)

Complete Set (B137-139) All values in watermark position 5 ... \$8.50
Complete Set (B137-139) All values in watermark position 6 ... 10.50
Complete Set (B137-139) All values in watermark position 7 ... 10.50
Complete Set (B137-139) All values in watermark position 8 ... 21.00

The complete collection (4 sets) in all four existing watermark positions 47.00

1926 SOKOL CONGRESS ISSUE (VIII Vsesokolsky Slet)

Complete Set (B140-143) All values in the watermark position 5 .. 10.00
Complete Set (B140-143) All values in the watermark position 6 .. 22.00
Complete Set (B140-143) All values in the watermark position 7 .. 10.00
Complete Set (B140-143) All values in the watermark position 8 .. 22.00

The complete collection (4 sets) in all four existing watermark positions 60.00

I also have the Jubilee 1923 Issue, The Olympic and Sokol Issues used, on cards and letters with Special Cancellations.

Want lists of collectors specializing in Czechoslovakia will be appreciated and filled at reasonable prices.

TERMS: Cash with order. If not satisfied money will be immediately refunded. Postage extra on all orders under \$3.00.
All offers subject unsold.

POSTAL MONEY ORDERS must be payable at New York City.

I. KESSLER Montreal, Canada 4529 Park Avenue,