

THE CZECHO-SLOVAK SPECIALIST



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

Vol. 2

August, 1940

No. 6

EDITORIAL

From the secretary I have received a letter part of which reads as follows: "...if you have followed the editorials of various stamp publications during recent months you will have noticed expressions of worry about the future of philately in general, due to the European war. Undeniably, the effect of the war on philately on this continent can be felt already. New issues are getting scarcer from day to day and stamp publications likewise have diminished both in numbers and volume. It can not as yet be foreseen what a totalitarian philatelic Europe would do to the American collector or dealer but chances are that fundamental principles would be swept away.

For quite some time I have been thinking of the consequences this war might have upon the future of our own organization. At the present time we have slightly over 50 members. I will be an optimist and proclaim that they will remain with us. Though, as you know, only a few members have joined during the past two months, in sharp contrast to the satisfactory amount of applications during the first eight months of our existence. Therefore, it becomes paramount that we find ways and means by which to enlarge our membership standing. Various steps were taken to accomplish this, especially by the New York and Chicago chapters. However, results were not very satisfactory.

I have made a study of the possible reasons for the lack of new applications and after many conversations with members and also collectors outside our organization have come to this conclusion: There are a great many interested collectors who would

like to join our Society but they are either unable to afford the Two dollars or are reluctant to spend this amount due to the fact that they also belong to several other philatelic organizations.

In view of these facts I would favor the reduction of our annual dues to \$1.00 beginning January 1st, 1941.

When, together with some of our members, I organized the CSPSNA we went about this in an idealistic way. We believed that we would form an exclusive circle, with a possibly limited membership of advanced and semi-advanced specialists. Subsequent applications however showed that only a percentage are in this class, the majority being plain collectors, many also collecting the stamps of countries other than Czechoslovakia.

Article II of our constitution states that the aim of our Society be "to propagate and encourage the collection and specialization of the stamps of Czechoslovakia". By that is meant that our Society is open to all interested collectors regardless of the size of their collection.

Though I am in favor of reducing the membership fee I nevertheless want to emphasize that we should continue to accept only such applicants whose character makes them eligible. I have consulted our executive board and all are in favor of my suggestion."

The Editor believes that Mr. Lowey has discussed a vital problem of ours and is proposing a very likely solution. The Editor advocates the idea of a reduction of dues and believes that in doing so and installing a concerted membership drive a number of collectors may be induced to join our ranks.

It is of course up to the members to decide the issue and therefore every member is requested to write to the secretary, stating whether you are in

favor or against lowering of the annual dues. Please do that right away. A post card will suffice.

The Editor

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.

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

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

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

Editor, The Specialist: Peter Kreis-cher, 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.

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.

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

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

NEW ISSUES Bohemia-Moravia

Additions to the present set of regular stamps have been received. They are:

Linden leaf; 40h, orange

Views: K 1.20, showing the cathedral of Brno (Brunn)

Also, a semi-postal set, for the benefit of the German Red Cross has appeared, consisting of two values of identical design showing a German soldier, his arm in a sling and being attended by a nurse. Both values have coupons attached with inscriptions in both Czech and German, "For the Benefit of the German Red Cross" and in addition the German Eagle with Swastika and Red Cross and the date 1940.

60h plus 40h, blue

K1.20 plus 80h, violet

The issuance of a 80h denomination of the Linden Leaf type is reported but has not been received as yet in this country.

ATTENTION NEW YORK MEMBERS

On Monday September 9 at 8 P.M. a meeting will be held at the White Star Candy Shop, 1400 Second Ave., (between 72 & 73 Sts.) New York, Phone—Regent 4-8771. Besides exchange and exhibit of interesting covers important points are to be discussed. It is advised that you reserve this evening, and attend.

CORRECTION

The meeting of the Chicago chapter will be held Sunday September 15th, and not on September 8th as stated in the last issue of the Specialist. Ed.

NEW MEMBER

Introducing

No. 61, W. B. Bryant, 1661 Spruce St., So. Pasadena, Calif.

Welcome, Mr. Bryant, pull up a chair and make yourself at home.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. Felix Brunner, c/o Dr. Emilio Schmelz, Apartado 2937, Mexico, D.F. After October 1st, Peter Kreis-cher, 6616 S. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, Ill.

BITS ABOUT THIS AND THAT

From the August 3rd issue of "Stamps" we learn that our Librarian Jim Stephen also is President of the Toronto Air Mail Society. The American Air Mail Society which is holding its 1940 convention in Toronto this September will convene with the Toronto chapter as host with Mr. Stephen as chairman of arrangements. On one of the pages of "Stamps" Jim is immortalized in two photographs, one showing him in formal pose and on the other with L. B. Gatchell, President of the N. Y. chapter of the AAMS, both looking interestedly into a volume held by Mr. Stephen. (Just what was the book about, Jim?)

We refer to our November 1939 issue of the Specialist dealing with covers mailed from United States post Offices

named after cities in Czechoslovakia to add that these covers are now on exhibit at the Czechoslovak Pavilion at the New York World's Fair. Also our Secretary has received an invitation from the Centennial Stamp Exhibit at the British Pavilion of the Fair to show pages from his collection. In order to make a representative showing Mr. Lowey requested 11 frames but was informed that such a large amount of frames are not available at the present time but was given to understand that arrangements would possibly be made some time during September.



Illustrated above is a reproduction of the official seal for the coming "In-

ternational Philatelic Week" November 10-16, 1940. The design is in compliment to the new S. S. America, the largest and fastest steamer ever built in the United States. In the lower right hand corner is illustrated the popular "Penny Black" while the balance of the design contains the inscription "The Centenary of the Adhesive Postage Stamp" and "International Philatelic Week, November 10-16, 1940."

Collectors and Dealers are urged to use them on all their mail. They are available at 25 cents per 100 postpaid and may be secured from the Central Federation of Stamp Clubs, Rm. 205, 58 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

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
⅛ Page .	.75	.65	.50
1/16 Page .	.50	.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.

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)

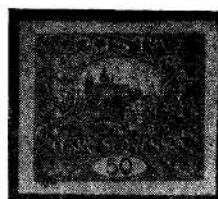
TYPE IV



In type IV the foliage in the foreground is now in shaded lines and reaches higher. The sun behind the cathedral disappeared.

- 60 haleru, orange.
- 80 haleru, olive green.
- 300 haleru, blue green.
- 1000 haleru, violet.

TYPE V



The foliage has been taken out and instead the tower and cupola of the St. Nicholas church, in enlarged size, have been inserted. The ornaments, especially those of the frame, have been distinctly changed.

- 5 haleru, milky blue green.
- 10 haleru, yellow green.

15 haleru, red.
 20 haleru, carmine.
 25 haleru, violet.
 30 haleru, red violet.
 50 haleru, blue.
 75 haleru, slate gray.
 120 haleru, gray.
 500 haleru, red brown.

Rarities

All items printed on any other than wove paper command higher prices, especially those on laid paper.

Most denominations of gutter tete beches are rarities, especially the higher ones.

Strips showing mixed printing of values or such with combinations of Hradcany stamps and the newspaper stamps of 1918 are great rarities.

Of the 25 haleru, Type I, a limited amount was printed and though never put on sale nevertheless made appearance on the market. It is a medium rarity.

Of the 60 haleru, Type IV, a few sheets were printed in lemon color. In this state it is vary rare.

Most of the rarities are found in Type V, namely:

The 5 haleru value also comes in a very dark blue green and in mint state it is hard to obtain. The 10, 20 and 30 haleru stamps, for reasons of having been issued in small quantities in imperforate state, are all rarities, especially the dark violet shade of the 50 denomination.

The 120 value also was printed in a very light gray and thus is scarce.

Above items however are rarities only under the following conditions:

Laid paper: Either imperforate or officially perforated. Mint or used.

Gutter Tete Beche: Same.

10, 20, 30 haleru values: Equally rare in mint or used condition, but must be genuinely imperforate.

All other items are either rare or scarce only in mint state.

Quantities Issued

Type	Denomination	Issued on	Imperforate	Perforated
I	3 haleru	Dec. 12, 1918	59,430,000	NONE
	5 haleru	Dec. 18, 1918	105,640,000	8,290,000
	10 haleru	Dec. 18, 1918	108,750,000	1,560,000
	20 haleru	Dec. 30, 1918	103,840,000	5,780,000
	25 haleru	Dec. 30, 1918	30,320,000	20,900,000
	30 haleru	Jan. 17, 1919	20,650,000	NONE
II	40 haleru	Jan. 23, 1919	17,200,000	NONE
	100 haleru	Jan. 14, 1919	23,620,000	NONE
	200 haleru	Jan. 14, 1919	7,960,000	5,900,000
III	400 haleru	Jan. 29, 1919	11,070,000	NONE
	1 haleru	Mar. 14, 1919	8,650,000	7,440,000
IV	50 haleru	Aug. 19, 1919	28,080,000	NONE
	60 haleru	Apr. 10, 1919	6,840,000	9,020,000
V	80 haleru	Apr. 10, 1919	23,710,000	NONE
	300 haleru	Apr. 22, 1919	4,720,000	NONE
	1000 haleru	June 2, 1919	2,510,000	NONE
V	5 haleru	Aug. 1, 1919	22,820,000	97,050,000
	10 haleru	Jan. 3, 1920	20,000	61,800,000
	15 haleru	June 7, 1919	52,090,000	64,560,000
	20 haleru	Jan. 3, 1920	12,500	45,357,000
	25 haleru	July 9, 1919	48,120,000	49,100,000
	*30 haleru	Apr. 12, 1920	? ? ?	36,500,000
	50 haleru	Aug. 15, 1919	8,200,000	NONE
	75 haleru	July 3, 1919	31,420,000	NONE
	120 haleru	July 28, 1919	20,370,000	390,000
	500 haleru	Aug. 9, 1919	3,430,000	NONE

*Quantity issued not known,—assumed to be between five to seven thousand.

Actually, however these quantities were not sold in the original state, because of every denomination a quantity was used for the following purpose:

1) For the airmail provisionals of 1920 (Scott 504-509) the following quantities were surcharged and used as

airmails:

#504	300,000
505	300,000
506	300,000
507	1,620,000
508	1,730,000
509	860,000

2) Quantities not to be ascertained,

though fairly large, were surcharged and used for Postage Due Provisionals of 1922 (Scott 915-925, 940-41, 942-945). It should be added here, that Scott's Catalogue does not actually list all surcharged provisionals. The following ones are missing.

20h on 3 haleru violet.

50h on 75 haleru slate.

•100h on 80 haleru olive.

3) Quantities of all denominations, though also not known, though not as large as Group 2, were used for the Plebiscite Issue of Eastern Silesia in 1920.

4) A negligible quantity has to be deducted in the case of every denomination. These were used for various purposes, chiefly as publicity material, gifts and specimen.

*A Rarity.

Plate Varieties

Even today, with printing facilities and supervision on the highest possible level, plate varieties do happen. It can therefore be imagined, that during the time of the printing of the Hradcany Issue a large amount of plate varieties occurred. In fact, especially with the stamps of Type I, there seldom is a sheet which would not show more plate varieties than perfectly produced items. Thousands of such passed into the hands of the public. These however were mostly minor ones like dots, dashes, light spots, streaks etc. Though often noticed by the controllers, they were passed on, because deliveries had to be made. If however appearance of a more noticeable flaw was seen, the discovery was reported to a superior and if the time permitted or replacement of the plate became an absolute necessity, this was done. However often deliberate oversight as some of the varieties are of such defacing proportions, that only a deliberate oversight in passing them on can justify their actual sale at post offices.

For lack of space it would not be possible to name and illustrate everything, but the following list will give a picture of the most widely known plate varieties, which exist in more or less large quantities:

TYPE I

3 haleru: "Fork": missing E in Slovenska;—broken arch;—
"clock" on tower;—dam-

aged roof;—large spot in S in Slovenska; upper left leaf damaged; broken frame;

10 haleru: "clock" on tower;—"flower buds";—breaking arch;

20 haleru: "waves" over value;—waves retouched;—dot after value;—

25 haleru: spots in value oval;—broken value oval;—

30 haleru: value and oval connected;—sun is missing;—illegible lettering;—

40 haleru: "Flag" on pole;—ringlet in value oval;—foliage and arch on right connected;—broken ornaments and lettering on right;—

TYPE II

100 haleru: dash after value.

200 haleru: broken branch on right;—line through foilage.

TYPE III

1 haleru: "smoke" before value;—dot near pole tip;—value with serifs;—double K in Slovenska;—broken O in Slovenska;—damaged ornament on left.

50 haleru: broken value oval;—engraver's name on bottom left spelled MIU instead Mucha.

TYPE V

5 haleru: dot after value.

Freaks

As freaks we classify the following shortcomings; left out perforation, double perforation, imperforation, creases, folds, incomplete printing, printing on gummed side, printing on both sides, offset, etc., etc.

Though here, as in the case with plate varieties, a large amount is known to exist, it should be realized, that, whereas stamps with plate varieties were obtained at post offices, such with a few exceptions is not the case with freaks. In the majority these were carried outside the printing plant by employees. Since certain collectors specialize in both plate varieties and other flaws and are constantly on the lookout for such items and being unable to obtain a sufficient quantity through legal channels it can be safely assumed, that they "instructed" employees of the Graficka Unie, to provide them with such material, regardless of consequences. Frequent discharge at the printing plant have proven this practice. (to be continued)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR THE SPECIALIST

MINT All items offered are in finest condition and mint. Numbers **MINT** in brackets refer to the Scott catalog. 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 (Skalicke vydani) 14 values Complete	\$18.00
Skout Issue (Skautske znamky) — USED — 2 values Complete	.60
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 Pair	.40
5h. (82a) Violet, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter	.45
10h. (83a) Olive, Tete Beche Pair	.70
10h. (83a) Olive, Tete Beche Pair, with gutter	.80
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 Pair	.80
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 (Olympijski 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