

# THE CZECHO-SLOVAK SPECIALIST



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

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Editor: Peter Kreisler, 6616 S. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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## EDITORIAL

The year 1940 has gone down in History as one year in which World shaking events have taken place. Boundaries have been changed and governments and kingdoms have fallen. Philatelically, some countries have ceased to be stamp issuing countries and what effect these events have had upon the stamp collecting fraternities is difficult to comprehend. The few new issues that have appeared abroad recently are scarcely seen here. If and when they are available the prices asked for them are such that one immediately suspects of being inveigled into contributing to someones war chest or that someone is taking advantage of the situation as far as European Philately is concerned. Nevertheless, the fact that it is difficult to obtain the new issues from abroad should not tend to discourage the collector, particularly the collector of the stamps of Czechoslovakia. I know that many of us, since we cannot obtain the new issues of the country we are interested in, tend to ignore that country. We as a group of collectors and specialists of Czechoslovakia can look back over the many stamps that have been issued in the past and can prevail upon them for much study and research. Very little has been written about the very recent issues and it is my earnest desire that every member go back over his collection and chose one of the issues whether it be a single portrait or a set of pictorials, make a study of it, the design, who the artist was, the location of the subject, who the subject is and what he has done to have earned himself a place in the

Hall of Fame of the Stamp collectors album, and write an account of it, send it to me and I'll be happy to publish it. An effort along these lines will tend to put the Society out in front and keep interest in our specialty alive. It will give the prospective member something besides the privilege of merely belonging.

Upon two occasions have articles by our members been reprinted in philatelic publications of wide circulation and by this token it is evident that there is a need for general information upon the stamps of Czechoslovakia and we are a group who can and will furnish it.

Your Editor

## SALES AND EXCHANGE DEPT.

The first circuit is on the way and everyone who gave me his name will get it in due course. When you get it and there is nothing in it that suits you, don't get angry over the 20c postage you have to spend for nothing. Remember: This is only the start. Many have not written to me yet what countries they collect and very few have sent in material for circulation and this is the main thing that keeps us going. Send in your duplicates, blank books you can get from me at 2c each plus postage. I have calls for: airmail stamps mint and used, Czechoslovakia and Slovakia and their specialties, of course also U.S.A. and its varieties. Furthermore: Belgium and colonies, Bulgaria, Canada, Canal Zone, Chile, France and colonies, German Colonies, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Jugoslavian varieties, Manchukou, Netherland and

colonies, Newfoundland, Peru, Union of South Africa. Send in your booklets at any time, I can always use them in order to get out one circuit a month. When using your own books remember to put the catalogue number above each stamp, and below the stamp the catalogue value at the left and the net value at the right. The sentence has been misprinted in the November number under the rules (#2). The printer must have dropped a line the way it is mingled up there. So far 15 members receive the circuit, anyone wishing to participate can join up at any time, just drop me a line and let me know what you collect.

Happy New Year from your exchange manager

Wolfgang Fritzsche  
P.O.B. #175  
Valley Stream, L. I., N. Y.

#### NEW ISSUES

##### Bohemia-Moravia

An addition to the present pictorial set has appeared. Of the larger size and printed in Light Red-violet it shows the main square of Budejovice. The value is 6 Koruny.

#### NEW MEMBERS

We extend a sincere welcome to the following new members:

- #69—Kurt Kempe, 94-40 114th Street, Richmond Hill, N. Y.
- #70—George J. Janacek, 1440 Broadway, Rm. 1070, New York, N. Y.
- #71—John Knollmueller, 1886 Lake St., Salt Lake City, Utah
- #72—Theodore J. Vavrinek, 160-21 73 St., Flushing, N. Y.
- #73—William Klemm, 239 E. 75th St. New York, N. Y.
- #74—Albert Thivierge, 6 Long Court, Amesbury, Mass.

We are especially pleased to see

Mr. Janacek join our society. Mr. Janacek was Commissioner General of the Czechoslovak Pavilion at the New York World Fair and now is back again at his desk at the Czechoslovak Consulate in New York City.

#### Reinstated

- #8—Otto R. Pozdena M.D., 6805 Woodside Ave., Woodside, L. I., New York
- #46—Vincent Domanski, Jr. 4545 N. Carlisle St., Philadelphia, Pa.

#### NEW YORK CHAPTER DOINGS

The attendance at the monthly meetings is steadily growing. At the last one, held on January 6th, 17 members and quite a few guests were present. Due to the lively proceedings it was proposed to hold semi-

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President: Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, 41-31 77 St., Jackson Hgts., L.I. N.Y.

Secretary: J. W. Lowey, 201 Marcy Pl., New York, N. Y.

Treasurer: Guy Greenawalt, 4000 Fifth St., North., Arlington, Va.

Editor: Peter Kreischer, 6616 S. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Librarian: Mrs. M. Glawe, 9640 S. Seeley Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

monthly get-togethers instead of monthly affairs. It was decided to wait one or two months and if the attendance keeps up as in the past the new plan will be accepted.

The next meeting will be held at the usual place, White Star Candy Shop, 1400 Second Ave., between 72nd and 73rd Sts.

The New York (Metropolitan Division) of the National Federation of Stamp Clubs is holding its annual meeting and exhibit on February 5th at the Collectors Club. As a member of the federation our society will be ably represented by Dr. Reiner-Deutsch, Mr. Horechny, Alfons Stach and J. W. Lowey.

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#### AIR MAIL NEWS

The February issue of the "Airpost News," published by Nicholas Sanabria will reprint the article by our treasurer Greenawalt which appeared in our October issue under the title "The 1930 Airpost Issue of Czechoslovakia." This is the second instance where an original article published in the Specialist is reprinted in a trade paper.

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#### "BIPEX" EXHIBITION

After a lapse of two years the Bipex National Philatelic Exhibition will again be held in May at the New York Concourse Plaza Hotel. Most likely this will be the most important show of 1941. The committee is planning on at least 1000 frames. In previous shows, all held at the same hotel, which is one of the finest in the City, very many nationally known collections were shown. This is due to the fact that every year valuable prizes are donated by prominent citizens and stamp dealers for almost every section of the exhibition.

We have been informed that at this years Exhibition a really beautiful trophy has been donated for the Czechoslovak section. The donor is one of our dealer-members whose name we will disclose in the April issue of the Specialist. If any of our members wish to exhibit please note that Mr. Lowey will be glad to handle the material entered just as carefully as if it were his own. Those who contemplate exhibiting may get in touch with Mr. Lowey, the secretary, regarding details.

#### CHICAGO CHAPTER

The Chicago members met Sunday January 12 at the home of Mr. John Velek. Though several matters of minor importance were discussed one in particular should be mentioned here. In order to bring the members closer together, fraternally, it has been suggested that every member write a short account about himself, nothing too personal, but enough to build up a very interesting column along the "Who's Who" lines, or "Who WE Are". The accounts should be sent to the Editor who will publish them from time to time. Who will be the first?

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#### THE JUBILEE ISSUE OF 1928

by Peter Kreischer

(Continued from last issue)

The town is the headquarters of the Czechoslovakian cloth and woolen industry which as well as the manufacture of machinery is based on the neighboring Kosice — Oslovany coal fields. Brewing, distilling, milling, sugar refining etc. reflect upon the fertility of the territory in which Brno lies. It is now the seat of the Supreme Court and the establishment of the Masarykova University revives the spirit of its medeaval predecessor and enables Brno once more to make its full contribution to civilization.

#### 2 Kc, 50h, Grand Tatra Mountains

The mountainous scenery is one of the chief delights of Slovakia. A view of the Grand Tatras creates a lasting impression. At Poprad an electric railway climbs up into the mountains which affords an intimate view of its ravines, its heights and extensive views of the lowlands to the south. Out of the snow filled crevasses of the High Tatras wanders the river Vah, a gypsy among rivers it swings westward watering the lush valley that divides the stark and spectacular Vysoke Tatry fom the gentler, more romantic green forested Nizka Tatry. From the highest rise of Nizka Tatry one looks down into a deep green well with an old town lying whitely at the bottom of it. The mountins of this are all of volcanic origin and rich in mineral wealth. Here was located the old Royal mint of Hungary, most of the workings are flooded but two are

still in operation, one yielding gold and the other silver. In the hills to the south are the oldest gold mines in all of Europe.

3 Kc, President Masaryk

Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, founder and former President of the Czechoslovakian Republic was born March 7, 1850 at Hodonin, a village in southern Moravia. As the son of a court attendant he received his early education from a priest and in 1871 entered the University where he received his degree as a Doctor of Philosophy in the year 1876. In 1878 he came to America where he married Miss Charlotte Garrigue of Brooklyn, New York. It is interesting to note that as a gesture of respect and devotion he assumed for his middle name the maiden name of his wife. In 1902 he again visited the United States and later on the problems of war again brought him back to the New World. Even though an aged statesman he went about in France, Russia and Rumania using his influence for the Independence of Czechoslovakia. On May 27, 1920 he was elected the first President of the new Republic, in 1927 he was reelected and on May 24, 1934 was again reelected by a great majority. That year he became seriously ill, fortunately he recovered and again took the reigns of Government until December 14, 1935 when he resigned. At this time his Cabinet conferred upon him the title of "President Liberator".

Masaryk died September 14, 1937 at the age of 87 years.

5 Kc, View of Prague, The Old Town Hall

The Old Town Hall, built and rebuilt many times over still contains traces of its 14th Century origin which are found in its Chapel; the great Hall of Ladislav II, the King who, after Charles IV, did most to beautify Prague; in the dungeons where patriots were imprisoned before execution and the beautiful Gothic Portal around the corner from the clock tower.

The pride of the Town Hall is its 15th Century clock, one of those Astronomical—Astrological time-pieces for which it would seem Bohemian Kings had such a great weakness. It is built in the tower wall beside a doorway and its two dials are set between tall rich foliaged pilasters that support a delicate sheltering gable. Extra hands tell the hour of Sunrise

and Moonrise; gilded suns and planets and Zodiacal signs reveal the secrets of the morning and evening stars. For those who are unlearned in such lore there is another ordinary clock around the angle of the wall as well as the great dial in the tower.

Even without these you can tell the time of the day. As each hour approaches groups of people gather from the shops and side streets and wait while the great clock ticks off the seconds. The Ram and the Bull, the Virgin, the Scorpion and the Goat dance their eternal measure about their lord the sun. At last, whining a little, the Astronomical clock strikes, immediately, high up under the gable two little doors open, a procession of figures—Christ and the Twelve Apostles pass in review above the unhallowed symbols of Venus, Mercury and Mars and with the final twitch of Matthias' cloak the doors click shut and a new hour has begun in Pragues market square.

I wish to acknowledge the kind assistance of Mr. Frank Kovarik in the preparation of this article.

Peter Kreischer

THE END

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