

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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THE EMISSIONS AND CANCELLATIONS OF SUBCARPATHIAN RUSSIA AND SOUTHERN SLOVAKIA

By Roger Richet

Translated by Ernst M. Cohn



As we wrote above, this issue was very poorly made and has numerous errors of printing. One of the more spectacular is the shift of the red fist on number 3 red and blue, which we show above.

Before this 200 stamp was issued, there was a first, slightly different type, with the 200 on the lower left of the stamp instead of the upper right, but in the same high format 38x24 mm.



We have a copy of this essay, printed in a single dark chestnut, shown above.

Third issue: June 1945

This issue comprises six values of small format, 18x22 mm., showing the 5-pointed Soviet star and the Soviet insignia of hammer and sickle at the center; coarse 11½ perforation; printed at the national printing works at Uzhorod.



- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. 10 yellow-olive | 3. 40 green-yellow |
| 2. 20 gray-blue | 4. 60 red-orange |
| 5. 100 dark blue, numbers red-carmine | |
| 6. 200 brown-yellow, numbers red-carmine | |

They are also found imperforate and are highly priced in specialist catalogues.

The gum on the stamps of this as well as the next issue is poor and defective, as if brushed on.

The colors are quite variable for both the perforated and imperforate stamps. The following shades are found:

- 10: yellow-olive, yellow-lemon-olive, dark yellow-olive;
 20: gray, clear to dark bluish gray, clear blue-gray to sky blue: All these shades are quite different;
 40: clear to dark green-yellow with all intermediate shades; jade green;
 60: clear to dark red-orange; clear to dark red-brown; clear to bright red-vermilion;
 100: dark blue to black-blue with dark to red-carmine numbers, going through clear and average carmine;
 200: clear red-brown to dark brown, with numbers ranging from clear red-carmine to red-orange, passing through dark red-carmine.

The ink itself was quite poor, apart from ink mixtures, because, in a block of four, one finds side by side two stamps in dark and two in much lighter color. After the torment of 1939 to 1945, the supply of ink at the printing works must have been mediocre and its quality even worse.

Various ungummed essays of this issue are known, particularly a 10 yellow-olive on rose paper and a 60 vermilion on very white laid paper.

Also known are essays of the 10 mustard yellow on white ungummed paper.

The offset prints are very desirable.

Errors of printing and colors are also known, for example the 100 brown, number carmine, instead of dark blue, number carmine.

Each lower sheet border carries in Cyrillic characters on the right: LITO "LAM" 1945.



Fourth issue: July 1945

A few days after the third issue, the government of Uzhorod issued a fourth and last series of four stamps, same type as the preceding one, with only the addition of the year "1945" on the bottom of the stamp, separated by the value tablet: 19/value/45.

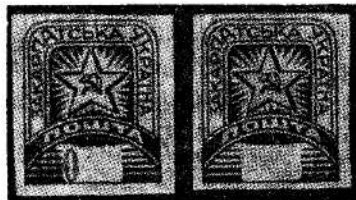
1. 10 clear to dark olive yellow, perf. 11½;
2. 20 clear to dark gray, perf. 11½;
3. 10 clear to dark olive-yellow imperforate;
4. 20 clear to dark gray, imperforate.

This issue shows all the same shade varieties as the third one.

The stamps of the fourth issue are much rarer than the preceding one and are exceedingly rare on cover. The imperforate values are particularly rare and desirable.

* * *

The stamps of the third and fourth issues are of poor and hasty manufacture. Thus, in addition to the shades already indicated, other varieties abound: Offsets, over-sized stamps, over-sized stamps next to normal stamps, missing perforations, 100 and 200 misplaced or even missing, etc.



The stamps of the third and fourth issues were printed in two panes of 100 stamps, separated by a strip the width of a stamp, with a picture of a pair of scissors to show where the two panes were to be cut (see photograph above).

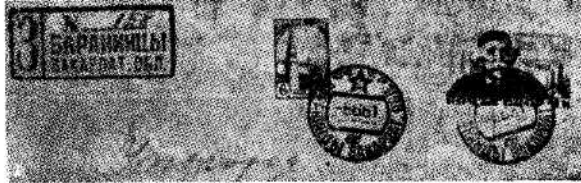
At the bottom of the left sheet is the printing serial number 1, 2, etc. The right shows the corresponding number 1A, 2A, etc.

As concerns the fourth issue, in addition to the printing irregularities already noted there are: Poor perforations, over-sized stamps, innumerable shade varieties, and many poor impressions of printing and ink. A characteristic one occurs on the 10 olive-yellow, where the one of 1945 is completely missing, being covered by excess ink, so that the year seems to be 9/45.

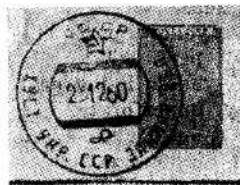
* * *

The two issues were valid until November 15, 1945, when Soviet stamps became obligatory in the whole territory then incorporated into Soviet Russia, according to the decision of June 29, 1945, of the parliament of Prague. From then on, the postal administration of the region became part of the Soviet post office.

The cancel consists of a small circle with the name of the place and the additional "Zakarpatska Oblast" (region behind the Carpathians) registration labels carry the same legend.



In 1960, all cancels were replaced and carry the name of the place and the new legend "UKR. S. S. R. Zakarpatska Oblast" (Ukr. Sov. Repub.—Region behind the Carpathians).



Nevertheless, the old cancels, like that shown above, remained in use for some time in the small post offices.

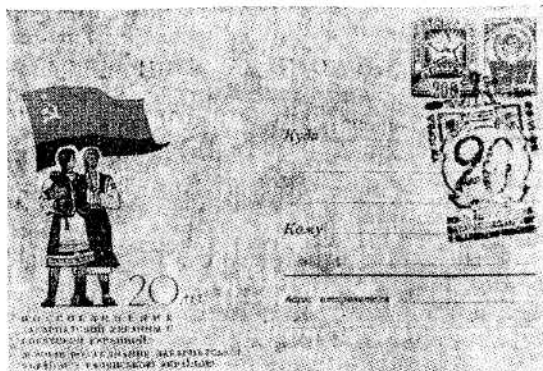


By January 1, 1962, the former Ruthenia already had 185 post offices.

**The Russian Postal Stationery of May 1965
To Celebrate the Twentieth Year
Of Reunion of Ruthenia with the U. S. S. R.**

We must mention the postal stationery issued at Moscow on May 21, 1965 to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the final reunion of Ruthenia with the U. S. S. R.

This postcard, 158x112 mm., carries the imprint of the Russian red 4 kp of 1961 on the right and, on the left, a folk-lore scene showing a Ukrainian peasant woman in national costume accompanied by a Ruthenian peasant woman, also in national costume, to whom she has just given a bouquet of red flowers. The scene takes place under the Soviet flag and is underlined by five lines of Russian text, mentioning the twentieth anniversary of the reunion of subcarpathian Russia with the Soviet Union.



At the same time, a souvenir envelope was manufactured by affixing to the left of the imprinted stamp a 200 brown and dark carmine from the third issue of Uzhorod.

Both stamps are cancelled by a special red cancel, large upright format of 30x45 mm., showing across it the name of Uzhorod to the right and the date to the left.

The above cover seems, at first sight, to be of essentially Soviet character by its general manufacture.

That is why, no doubt, since this was to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the reunion of Ruthenia with the U.S.S.R., a second piece of postal stationery, this one with a Czech character, was also issued at Moscow. It is reproduced below.



This envelope, also 158x112 mm., carries the gray imprint stamp of 1961 on the right. The left shows a scene of two people in gray, on a black and ultramarine background, in a field of 50x45 mm.

In the upper right corner of this tableaux, in a pentagonal frame, in white on red, there is the celebrated double tailed Czechoslovak lion.

Except for the Russian legend mentioning the twentieth anniversary of the reunion of Ruthenia with U.S.S.R., one might indeed think it was a Czech scene.

This entire, like the preceding one, was cancelled with the large commemorative cancel in red or carmine described above, dated 23.VI.65. Although this souvenir cancel is dated 23.VI.65 and covers the stamp imprinted on the entire, the latter did not keep its franking value, as witness that shown above, cancelled and used only on December 1, 1965.

THE ROZNAVA ISSUE

Roznava—Rosenau in German and Rozanyó in Hungarian—is a little town of 7,000 on the River Sajó, some 50 kilometers west of Košice, formerly situated in Hungary and given to Czechoslovakia by the agreements of 1949.

This main town of the Slovak district, in the extreme South of Czechoslovakia, a bishopric since 1504, and renowned for its gold mines and universities, was the place of famous battles on June 18, 1919, and March 2, 1945, the day of its liberation from the Hungarians and Germans, who were then fleeing the Czech and Russian armies.

To celebrate its liberation, Roznava issued some stamps with a black typographed overprint "Č.S.P." of three mm. height, underlined with a thin dotted line and, below it, a thick straight line.



Only the historic series of Hungary, used at that time, seems to have been overprinted. We don't know the size of each printing, which was probably small. Such overprinted stamps on cards or letters are extremely rare.

To our knowledge, at least the following values exist in that series:

- 4 f. brown-yellow (Yvert 615)
- 10 f. brown-yellow (619)
- 12 f. green (620)
- 18 f. gray-violet (621)
- 20 f. brown-red (622)
- 24 f. dark lilac (623)
- 50 f. dull blue (626)
- 70 f. red-orange (famous woman, 661)
- 80 f. brown-yellow (627).

This list is probably not complete because, again, we think that all the stamps of the two series mentioned above must have been overprinted.

(to be continued)

* * *

Original booklet in French may be purchased for \$2.00 from the authoró Roger Richet, 58 Rue Bourbonnoux, 18 Bourges, France.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Honorary Member Mrs. Hedy Lowey, the widow of our founder, hosted a social meeting of the New York area members on Nov. 8. The gathering celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Society. Due to Mrs. Lowey's usual fina hospitality, a delightful time was enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

A speedy recovery is wished to Pat Flynn from his recent illness.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

There is an error in the Stamp Market Tips item of the November Specialist. The Heydrich miniature sheet of Bohemia and Moravia is described as imperforate. It is PERFORATED. I have viewed three of these sheets in the past few years, though I do not own one. The sheet, arranged vertically, measures 101x146 mm., or slightly smaller than the German Olympic sheets of 1936. One imprinted stamp is located slightly above center with a serial number printed at the lower left. The sheet is gummed; the paper is a yellowish color. It was presented to dignitaries attending the first anniversary memorial services for Heydrich in 1943. Theoretically, the sheet was valid for postage; the imprinted stamp, if detached from the sheet, is distinguishable from the regular stamp issue only by the color of the paper. It is doubtful the sheet, or the detached stamp, ever saw postal use. Members should beware any offer of an imperforate sheet. A genuine imperforate, if one exists, would rank with the rarest items of the Third Reich period. The last sheet I saw sold at auction several years ago for \$625.

Ed Hanish #759, Councilor, East

STAMP MARKET TIPS

By John G. Ross

Reprinted from STAMPS

CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Ever since the Russian military occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968 I have noticed a distinct increase in interest for the stamps of that country, and this may result in some price rises. There are quite a few fairly recent issues that were somewhat difficult to obtain right after they were issued, and these would almost certainly be affected among the first in any trend to price increases.

An attractive set that I recommend is the air mail issue of 1955, Scott No. C40-44. These five stamps show a birdseye view of various Czech towns. Mintage was about one million sets, but many were used up on commercial mail, and a lot also were sold cancelled-to-order at a fraction of the mint price. This accounts for the scarcity of mint copies. Dealers in Vienna, Austria, have started to buy up this set, and are offering as high as \$3.00. If you collect the stamps of Czechoslovakia, make sure you own this set; it will likely go higher.

NEW ISSUES



December 1967—Two regular postage stamps:

- 2— Kčs—Portrait of President Antonín Novotný. Color: blue-green
 3— Kčs—Same. Color: brown

Both stamps designed and engraved by Bedřich Housa. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 23x30 mm. Printed by rotary recess print in sheets of 50 stamps.



(Illustration reduced slightly in size)

December 11, 1967—A commemorative set of six stamps "Czechoslovak Sports- and Training-Airplanes."

- 0.30 Kčs—Glider L13. Dark-blue, yellow, grey, red. Engraver: Josef Herčík
 0.60 Kčs—Sports-Airplane L40. Black, light-blue, dark-blue, yellow. Engraver: Josef Herčík
 0.80 Kčs—Aerotaxi L200. Black, blue, violet, red. Engraver: Herčík
 1.— Kčs—Airplane for agricultural purposes Z 37. Black, yellow, red, green. Engraver: Herčík
 1.60 Kčs—Training and Acrobatic Airplane Z526. Black, yellow, red, blue-grey. Engraver: Jaroslav Goldschmied. Design: Herčík
 2.— Kčs—Training-Jet-Plane L 29. Black, yellow, red, blue. Engraver: Goldschmied. Design: Herčík

The designs are the work of the academic painter Jaroslav Lukavský. The stamps were printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in three colors in sheets of 50 stamps. Dimensions are 41x23mm. Three First Day Covers also issued.

- December 18, 1967—1.— Kčs—"Day of the Czechoslovak postage stamp, 18. XII. 1967" a composition of stamp motives issued in 1920. Red-brown and silver.



Designed by Karel Vodák and engraved by Ladislav Jirka. Dimensions: 49x19mm. Rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. A First Day Cover also issued.



January 15, 1968—A 30h commemorative stamp for 50th Anniversary of Czechoslovakia. Designed by Karel Svolinský and engraved by Ladislav Jirka. Dimensions: 23x41mm. The stamp shows a symbolic drawing with a tri-color and a lime leaf. The stamp was printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. Colors: red, pale-blue, dark blue. A First Day Cover also issued.



January 29, 1968—A set of 4 commemoratives, "10th Winter Olympic Games at Grenoble 1968."

0.60 Kčs—Figure Skating. Violet-black, yellow, pale brown. Engraver: Josef Herčík

1.— Kčs—Ski platform. Dark-blue, violet, ochre-yellow. Engraver: Jan Mráček

1.60 Kčs—Toboggan slide. Blackish green, violet, turquoise-green. Engraver: Jindra Schmidt

2.— Kčs—Ice Hockey. Blackish-brown, yellow, pale blue. Engraver: Herčík
Designed by the woman painter Anna Podzemná.

Printed by recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 25. Pictorial part is 49x30mm. Two First Day Covers also issued.



February 25, 1968—Two commemorative stamps .30 and .60 Kčs, for the 20th Anniversary of the Victorious February. Stamps designed by Josef Paukert, engraved by Ladislav Jirka. Printed by rotary recess combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. Colors, blue and red. Dimensions 41x23mm. A First Day Cover also issued.



May 9, 1968—"Prague Castle" series of commemoratives—two stamps and a souvenir sheet:

30 h—"Prague Castle"—Petr Parleř—Břetislav I.—14th century. Black, green grey, ochre, red. Engraver, Ladislav Jirka

60 h—The door of the Saint Wenceslas chapel, Romanesque Knocker. Black, light-green, brown-black. Engraver, Jindra Schmidt.

Dimensions of both, 30x49mm. Printed by rotary recess combined with multicolor photogravure in sheets of 25. Designed by Pavel Sukdolak.



May 9, 1968—Two regular issues:

30 h—Portrait of President Ludvík Svoboda. Color, brown-red

60 h—Same, color, dark-blue

Both designed and engraved by Jindra Schmidt. Dimensions: 19x23mm.
Printed by rotary recess print in sheets of 100.



(Illustration reduced slightly in size)

5— Kčs—Prague Castle—The Golden Gate of the Saint Vitus—detail of the mosaic from the castle (1370-1371). Brown, blue, yellow, red, black. Dimensions of the stamp picture are 30x50mm. Of the stamp sheet, 75x95mm. Engraved by Ladislav Jirka. Printed by flat recess print. Two First Day Covers were issued.

May 27, 1968—Series of 6 commemorative stamps "Praga 1968—The New Prague":

30 h—Sculpture by Otto Gutfreund "Business"

40 h—New building of the Broadcasting Corporation in Prague

60 h—The new building of the Parliament in Prague

1.40 Kčs—A Gobelin by Bauch—Motif of Prague

2.— Kčs—"Cabaret artist" by František Kupka 1871-1967 (National Gallery" in Prague. Yellow, red, grey-blue, brown, black

- 3.— Kčs—The Standard of the President of the Republic. Black, red, blue, gold
Designed and engraved by Jiří Svengsbír and printed (with the exception



(Illustration reduced slightly in size)



of the Kčs 2 value) in rotary recess print combined with multicolor photo-
gravure in sheets of 15, each with a tab. The Kčs 2 stamp was printed by flat
recess print in five colors in blocks of four with a gutter bearing the Praga
1968 Emblem. The dimensions of the stamps 30x49mm and of the 2 Kčs,
40x50mm. Four First Day Covers also issued.

July 6, 1968—Praga 1968—Day of the FIP (Federation Internationale de
Philatelia). A 5 Kčs commemorative, showing the reproduction of a detail of
A. Durer's painting "Festival of the Rosary" from the National Gallery in
Prague. Design and engraving by Jiří Svengsbír. Printed by flat recess print
in five colors in blocks of four with a gutter. Dimensions of the stamp picture
are 40x50mm. A First Day Cover was also issued.

(Note: The mimeographed release by Artia gives this issue as the "Festi-
val of the Rosary" while a printed release printed in colors—also by Artia—
gives the title as "The Feast of the Rose Garlands.")



June 22, 1968—A series of 6 commemorative stamps "Praga 1968—The Old Prague":

- 30 h—St. George's Basilica—12th-18th Century at the Prague Castle
 60 h—Renaissance Fountain of the 16th Century—The old part of Prague
 1.—Kčs—K. I. Dienzenhofer 1689-1751—Villa America—Dvořák's Museum
 1.60 Kčs—The house "At the Three Violins"—18th Century
 2.—Kčs—"Josephine" by Josef Mánes 1820-1871 (National Gallery). Yellow,
 rose, khaki, green and dark brown
 3.—Kčs—The Emblem of the Prague's Old Town from 1475
 Designed and engraved by Jiří Svengsbír. All but the 2 Kčs value stamp
 were printed by rotary recess print combined with multicolored photogravure
 in sheets of 15, each stamp with a tab.
 The Kčs 2 stamp was printed by flat recess print in five colors in blocks
 of four with a gutter bearing the PRAGA 1968 Emblem. Dimensions, 30x49mm
 and of the 2 Kčs stamp, 40x50mm. Four First Day Covers were issued.

Advertising Rates of the Specialist

(Effective Jan. 1, 1970)

Amount of space	One issue	Three issues	Five issues	Ten issues
Full page	\$12.00	\$34.50	\$54.00	\$100.00
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Quarter page	6.00	17.10	27.00	48.00
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Sixteenth page (4 lines across page)	1.80	5.10	8.10	14.40
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1954-55	3	6.50
1955	8	4.50
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