

(USPS 808300)

Official Bi-Monthly Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, an Incorportated Non-Profit Organization. Winner of Numerous Philatelic Literature Awards

A. P. S. Unit 18 ISSN: 0526-5843
Vol.57 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1995 No. 1, Whole No. 529

President's Corner

WHAT'S COMING UP THIS YEAR

The S.C.P. Board of Directors held a meeting on Nov. 12, 1994 at VAPEX in Virginia Beach, VA. Iam happy to report that our Society is growing in membership and is financially in sound condition.

Our annual convention will be held in conjunction with BALPEX 95 on Sept. 1-4 in the Cockeysville suburb of Baltimore, MD, just off Route 83. I hope you will all plan to join us. BALPEX has traditionally been an excellent convention site for many of our active members. For those who have yet to visit us there, this will be a fine opportunity to see how a well-organized, well-attended stamp show operates. More details and an application for exhibiting will appear in a forthcoming issue.

Please note there is a centerfold inserted in this issue. On one side are the rules for the use of our expertization service; on the other side is the application itself. Pull out this sheet and keep it handy. If you need additional applications, drop me a line. As the expertization service manager, I coordinate the activities of the expertization committee and will direct your application to the appropriate expertizing party.

For our paid-up patron members I have some good news. Within the next few weeks, we will be binding the 1993-94 SPECIALISTS. These bound volumes will contain, for the first time, a Subject Index for just those two years. If our scheduled deadline is met by the bindery, you should be receiving your bound volume by the end of March. In the meantime, a complete 55-year Index is being compiled and should be available to our general membership later this year.

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Here is a list of all benefits to which S.C.P. members in good standing are entitled:

- A sales and exchange circuit is operated by H. Alan Hoover. The circuit itself has been fully written up in the Aug./Sept. 1989 SPECIALIST, page 8. For complete details, contact H. Alan Hoover, 6070 Poplar Spring Drive, Norcross, GA 30092.
- A book sales division is run by Edwin Lehecka. Ads listing philatelic books for sale appear regularly in the SPECIALIST. For further information, contact Edwin Lehecka, 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.
- A Society library is housed with Richard Palaschak, librarian. A complete write-up
 including contents of the library is beginning on pages 24-26 of the current issue. For
 inquiries on borrowing books or making book donations, contact Dick Palaschak, 4050
 Carbury Ct., Chantilly, VA 22021.
- An expertization committee operates under the direction of Ludvik Z. Svoboda. Depending on the nature or substance of the item to be expertized, he will direct you to the appropriate source for expertization. Please contact, Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 South Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015.
- THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official bi-monthly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles of related significance, translating articles from Czech to English, advertising rates and bound copies, contact Mirko L. Vondra, 2363 McCleary Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17201.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

(ISSN 0526-5843)
Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.
A.P.S. Unit 18

VOL.57

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1995 No. 1, WHOLE NO. 529

Published bi-monthly - \$18.00 per year Second Class Postage Paid at Chambersburg, PA 17201 PUBLISHED BY: THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST 2363 McCLEARY DRIVE, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

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THE PROTECTORATE OVERPRINTS OF 1939

By Miroslav Vostatek translated by Henry Hahn

For several decades questions involving the 1939 Protectorate overprints could not be studied, nothing was published, and no solution to this problem could be found. If we summarize the basic facts, then on the 15th of July, 1939, the Postal Administration of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia issued this set of 19 stamps with the two-line overprint BÖHMEN u. MÄHREN / ČECHY A MORAVA. The title of former "Československo" (Czechoslovakia) was crossed out by three lines. The Michel Catalogue publishes the size of the issue: 5h = 603,000, 10h = 750,000, 20h = 790,000, 25h = 716,000, 30h = 630,000, 40h = 276,000, 50h = 1,322,000, 80h = 278,000, 1 K = 386,000, 1 Kc = 603,000, 1.20 Kc = 276,000, 1.50 = 276,000, 1.60 Kc = 276,000, 2 Kc = 432,000, 2.50 Kc = 276,000, 3 Kc = 277,000, 4 Kc = 275,000, 5 Kc = 276,000, 10 Kc = 275,000. The stamps were valid to December 15, 1939, though they were taken out of circulation on December 1st.

While these stamps in the unused condition were readily available, more interest was shown in covers bearing this issue and in used copies. The journal ČESKÝ FILATELISTA of 1941 repeats several times that the overprinted set is sought (particularly in Germany), and calls attention to the forging of covers (1). It also calls attention to the fact that a genuine cover can be distinguished from a forged one by observation of the cancellations. It was in this period that old Czechoslovak cancels having a different diameter were used, distinct from later smaller Protectorate cancels. Later (2) the journal published the fact that new cancellations were used in the Protectorate, and that genuine letters may have these cancels, but that in the instance of Registered letters, it is necessary to have at hand the mailing receipt.

The catalogues say that in these issues there exist forgeries and that authentication is required. The forgeries were discovered early, and one may read in the above cited journal (3) about a particular forger. This concerned one merchant, by the name of Jaroslav Švanda, Prague XII - Vinohrady. As early as on May 17, 1940, the journal called attention to this on page 119, and pointed out that in the vicinity of Pilsen, two persons were apprehended with a significant amount of forged overprints, which they were engaged in selling. At the time, two detectives reporting to the Prague Directorate of Police were assigned the case for investigation. It was demonstrated that the forgeries originated from J. Švanda. After incarceration it was found that Švanda had not only those, but also other forgeries, a press, dies, inks, etc. Svanda admitted that he manufactured the forgeries and placed them in circulation. He was sentenced in 1941. Previously, however, he brought suit against the publication, which refused to publish a printing correction. Švanda was sentenced for 2 months in prison, conditionally for 1 year.

The catalogue PROFIL, Prague (4) publishes details of the overprint, though curiously the "Specialized Catalogue of the Protectorate" by Horst Engel is scant on this information and the details cannot be found there.

The stamps used for overprinting had three arrangements of their printing form:

A - (stamps no. 1 - 6, 8 - 10): the printing form was composed of two 200 subject plates: the plate marking is under the 181st stamp. Two types of printing plates were prepared: A1 - for stamps with the design of the state seal (no. 1 - 5), and A2 - for stamps with portrait

(6, 8-10). The difference is in the length of the title.

B - (stamps no. 11 - 16): the printing form was composed of two printing plates, of which each was divided into two parts, one having 50 and the other having 100 subjects. Plate marking was under the 41st stamp (wide salvage) and under the 91st. Two overprinting plates were prepared:

B1 - in arrangement of 50 ± 100 subjects (no. 11, 14 - 16); B2 - in arrangement for 100 subjects (12 and 13). This group also includes stamp no. 7, where the arrangement of the printing plate was 100 ± 50 with overprinted gutter without plate marking; and B3 - with the arrangement of 100 ± 50 .

C - Istamps no. 17 - 19): the printing form was composed of two printing plates marked by number 1 and 1A. Printing plates contained 112 subjects (16×7), which included on each side six clear coupons. The plate marking was on the right (stamp no. 17 and 19) or on the left stamp (stamp no. 18) with lower clear space (coupon).

Two plates were made for overprinting:

C1 - for wide stamps (no. 17 and 19), and C2 - for narrow, tall stamps (no. 18).

-	Plate	Length	Distance	Letter	Length of
2	Туре	of Title	of Title	Height	Overprint
	1,00	or ritie	or true	ricigit	Lines
	Al	15mm	9.2 - 9.8mm	1.5mm	17.5 - 18mm
	A2	15.75mm			
	B1, B2	16.6mm	11.6mm	1.5mm	19.2mm
	B3	20.0mm	6.6mm	1.8mm	23.0mm
	CI	25.7mm	10.5mm	1.6mm	28.5mm
		20.2mm	15.8mm	1.8mm	23.4mm

In the manufacture of the overprint plates there arose a number of errors and freaks which always give philatelists pleasure. These are listed in some of the catalogues. The following summary is based on catalogues including: Novotný L. (5), Michel (6), price list - FILATELIE no. 9/94 (7), and the previously cited catalogue Profil (4).

					0.000
no.	1	5 hel.	lacks period after "u"	(4) (6)	
	2	10 hel.	not listed		
	3	20 hel.	lacks period after "u"	(4)	
			omitted "u"	(5) (6) (7)	
	4	25 hel.	lacks period after "u"	(4)	
			omitted "u"	(5) (6) (7)	
	5	30 hel.	not listed	350	
	6	40 hel.	BÖHMEN instead of BÖHMEN	(4)	
	7	50 hel.	not listed		
	8	60 hel.	not listed		
	9	l Kč	SÖHNEN instead of BÖHMEN	(4) (6)	
			lacks period after "u"	(4) (7)	
	10	I K	machine offset of overprint	(5)	
	11	1.20 Kč	lacks period after "u"	(4) (6) (7)	

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12	1.50 Kč	not listed	
13	1.60 Kč	MÄHNEN instead of MÄHREN	(4) (5) (6) (7)
		8ÖHMEN instead of BÖHMEN	(4)
14	2 Kč	not listed	
15	2.50 Kč	lacks period after "u"	(4) (6) (7)
16	3 Kč	lacks period after "u"	(4) (6) (7)
		machine offset of overprint	(5)
17	4 Kč	not listed	
18	5 Kč	not listed	
19	10 Kč	cut in "o" in BÖHMEN	(4)

From the above it appears that there is a lack of literature which concerns itself with this subject and that the description of faulty overprints is found in a broken-up fashion. The fact is surprising, as stated earlier, that the "Specialized Catalogue of the Protectorate" of the firm Horst Engel of Germany totally omits this subject. However, it is possible that the contemporary literature makes note of some of the findings, as do some of the catalogues. It is noteworthy that the ČESKÝ FILATELISTA 1941 (8) published and illustrated only the 50 hel. Pilsen, where on the right salvage are noticeable remains of the overprint on the coupon - a toothed wheel. Otherwise the entire year's publication does not return to this subject.

Since I have had the opportunity to examine a few dozen of the overprints, I used this opportunity to follow up on the various printing faults in a random manner. It is understood that from a statistical viewpoint, this random sampling was absolutely insufficient; but surely there must be a collector or a group of collectors who could complete or confirm what I have found:

5 hel.: "A" in the word MORAVA is partially or completely fill by ink (fig. 5H), after "u" the period is printed very lightly, almost imperceptibly. In MÄHREN is repeated the weak printing in the "R" (see fig. 5H).

10 hel.: almost imperceptible period after "u", in the word ČECHY, various deformations of the "H", in MORAVA a filled "A", in BÖHMEN incompletely printed "E" (see fig. 10).

20 hel.: in BÖHMEN are various incompletely printed "B"s and in ČECHY various diacritical marks over the Č (fig.20).

25 hel.: ink filled letter A (see 5 hel.), in MÄHREN partically filled letter E and in BÖHMEN filled B. An interesting fault is where instead of ČECHY we see ČEOHY (fig. 25).

30 hel.: filled A in MORAVA (see 5 hel.) and various incomplete printings and filled B (see 20 hel.), filled letter "a".

40 hel.: letter B in BÖHMEN often appears as "8" (fig. 40), filled letters B and A (see previous) and in MÄHREN the N; A, Weak O and A.

10 HEA
20 CB
25 EOHB
40 BB

50 hel.: no varieties

60 hel.: letter B often has characteristics of "8".

1 Kc: as shown previously, insufficiently printed letter "a", H, C, R, B (fig. 1 Kč).

IK: in MÄHREN repeated period above M (fig. IK) and incomplete printings of R.

1.20 Kc: in BÖHMEN is a broken stem in M (fig. 1.20).

1.50 Kc: in MORAVA recurring period above "V" (fig. 1.50).

1.60 KC: MORAVA, where "O" appears as MURAVA (fig. 1.60).

2 Kc: Repeatedly B in BÖHMEN has characteristics of "8".

4 Kc: in BOHMEN the letter M is often significantly lower than the previous letter and succeeding M in the overprint (fig. 4 Kc).

5 Kc: in MÄHREN is a broken stem in A (fig. 5 Kc).

10 Kc: Shows cut "O" and incompletely printed "a" (fig. 10 Kc).

TKE CH C ABH

TK M 1,20 Mi

1,50 V 1,60 MU

4 Ke HM

5 Ke A

10 Ke O a

In the lines going across ČESKOSLOVENSKO is a series of shifts (of course together with the entire overprint) to the left, right, up and down, all in terms of millimeters. It is in the position of the lines that these shifts are mostly marked.

The listed anomalies are the results of trials, which the overprints in fact are, and the overprints and the findings are more or less associated with this fact. One can say that these faults have no speculative intent, and occurred by accident. After more than a half century during which they could not be studied - collectors can look forward to pleasurable times when they can study these overprints in detail.

REFERENCES

- (1) Český Filatelista, yr. 1941, no. 7, p. 118
- (2) Český Filatelista, yr. 1941, no. 10, p. 173
- (3) Český Filatelista, yr. 1941, no. 24, p. 385
- (4) Catalogue PROFIL, Prague 1992
- (5) Novotný L.: Special Catalogue 1949, Bratislava 1949, p. 3 (part 2)
- (6) Michel: Briefmarken-Katalog Deutschland 1975, Munchen, P. 424
- (7) Pricelist insert in Filatelie, Prague, yr. 1994, no. 9
- (8) Česky Filatelista, yr. 1941, no. 7, p. 104

CODED TELEGRAMS By Lubor Kunc

There is a little-known chapter about mailings during World War II which Mr. Crha described in FILATELIE no. 5, 1993. The author wrote about coded telegrams sent by U.S. soldiers through Paris to the U.S.A. His article has been mainly based on a French stamp catalogue (1) and on an article published in a French stamp magazine "Le Monde des Philatelistes." (2)

The authors of the catalogue made a note of a French stamp showing the Castle Chenonceaux. French postal service issued this stamp on October 30, 1944 in a press run of 3.741.000. The face value amounts to 25 fr., the color is black (see fig. 1).



Fig. 1

The mentioned stamp has been issued by the French postal service for U.S. soldiers for their coded telegrams to the homeland. The rate of 25 fr. was useful for this purpose only. The service started after liberation of Paris and finished on August 15, 1945. However the stamp has been issued in France, it has been used in Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia, too. The soldiers received a telegram blank in English with the slogan "Expeditionary Force Message". They completed the addressee,

their own name, their identification number (ASN), no. of their Army Post Office (APO) and three codes. There were about 260 various codes, every code was a message. The blank was cancelled by the Army Post Office, the censor and by a radio station in Paris. The soldiers affixed the mentioned stamp on the blank to pay a telegram charge. The blanks were mailed to Paris and from Paris they were sent by wire to the U.S.A. Does anyone know if the addressees received the telegrams in codes or in messages?

The stamp Castle Chenonceaux was replaced by a new French stamp Marianna (face value also 25 fr., press run of 5,220,000, probably on May 14, 1945 as the day of issue of the stamp (Frankreich, Michel no. 704, page 434).

The following Army Post Offices were situated in Western Bohemia in 1945:

APO no.	ln s	ervice	Location
	from	to	
2	12.5.45	10.6.45	Domažlice, Plzeň
2 5	11.5.45	20.5.45	Vimperk
26	29.5.45	14.8.45	Volary
79	4.6.45	9.8.45	Cheb
80	25.9.45	unknown	Mariánské Lázně
94	11.6.45	20.7.45	Strakonice
137	11.5.45	2.10.45	Plzeň
205	??.8.45	20.9.45	Plzeň
254	11.5.45	13.6.45	Sušice
258	11.6.45	30.9.45	Rokycany, Holýšov
305	11.5.45	unknown	Plzeň
412	16.5.45	4.10.45	Planá u Tachova
445	11.5.45	18.5.45	Konstantinovy Lázně & Tachov

This list was published in FILATELIE no. 11, 1987. The author of the list is George Kobylka.

If you have any telegram blanks cancelled by the above mentioned APO in those periods, it comes from Czechoslovakia! Please send me a xerox of the document, I don't know any telegram coming from Czechoslovakia.

I am grateful to Joseph Bush of Richmond for the stamp Chenonceaux.

REFERENCES

- (1) Storch, Frankon, Brun: Timbres de France, Catalogue federal Marianne 1984-85, Paris 1984
- (2) J.-L. Trassaert: Chenonceaux un timbre pour l'Amerique, Le Monde des Philatelistes, mars 1993, no. 472
- (3) Michel-Europa-Katalog-West 1992-93, part A-L. Schwanenberger Verlag GmbH, Munich 1992
- * Various articles from Czechoslovak stamp magazine FILATELIE

CENSOR MARKING 1921-22

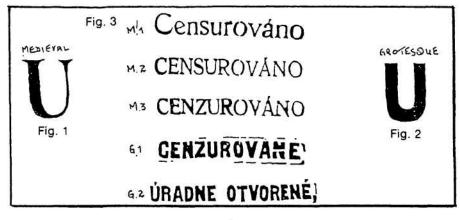
By Tomaš Morovics

Translated by V.J. Králíček

(We are grateful to the new editor of CZECHOUT, Colin W. Spong, and to the author, for permitting us to reprint these two brief articles from the third quarter issue of CZECHOUT (3/1994), the official publication of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain.)

With this article I would like to link up with Dr. Hallona's articles in FILATELIE 1981/9/273 and 1984/9/269 and add my own findings. The research of these censor markings has so far not been worked out and it is a somewhat complicated subject, in that at the same time as the Military Censorship was in being so was the Civilian Censorship, and in the majority of cases it is not possible to differentiate them from each other from only the printing of the censor mark. At least, not so far. I therefore propose to introduce a method of differentiating the censor marks by comparing the type of lettering they use. In order to do so, I have divided the censor marks into two main groups. They are, Group M-medieval lettering and Group G-Grotesque.

Medieval lettering emphasises the difference between thin and shaded lines, in which it is nearer to the Roman lettering, but its chief characteristic is that, with rounded letters, the shading is oblique and the axial strengthening of the rounded forms is inclined. The letter



heels have varied shapes and the crossovers are frequently rounded (fig. 1).

The characteristic of the grotesque lettering is the even width of the line, without the shading and letters heels (fig. 2).

Fig. 3 shows the censor marks in my collection, for which I propose to introduce the references as given in the table below.

Note: with censor mark G1 the print is not legible, the word CENZUROVANE has probably an accented letter É at the end.

Designation	Inscription	Dim. in cm.	Colour	Date on cover	Remarks
M1	Censurováno	5.3 x 0.8	?	10.5.21	see Fil
			red	21.5.22	198 1/9
M2	CENSUROVÁNO	5.3 x 0.6	Violet	2.6.21	
мз	CENZUROVÁNO	5.3 x 0.6	Violet	8.2.22	323 5 3 4 5 1 1 1 3 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1
			Violet	20.2.22	see Fil.
			red	13.4.22	1984/9
			Violet	12.5.22	53305 (6)
Slovak language					
G1	CENZUROVÁNE	5.1 x 0.6	Violet	14.5.21	
			red	16.3.22	
G2	URADNE CTVORENÉ	5.8 x 0.6	Violet	14.5.21	
G3	VOJENSKÝM	?	?	?	see Fil.
	URADEM CTVERE NO				1981/9

In my article, I have endeavoured to bring together my own findings regarding the specification of the individual censor marks. The above table does not, for certain, show all the existing censor marks as it would be necessary to examine contemporary documents in order to complete the data. This would help us to obtain a complete picture of this interesting subject.

REFERENCE:

Tomas Morovics c/en KMF 56.49 (Klub Moravskych Filatelistu)

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FORGERIES OF PROVISIONAL NEWSPAPER LABELS

By Tomaš Morovics Translated by V.J. Kralíček

The provisional newpaper labels used by the various newspapers and magazines during the first year of the Czechoslovak Republic are much sought after, particularly if they are still attached to the address wrapper. In view of the fact that these are so scarce there is naturally a constant demand for them. It is therefore not surprising that forgers have directed their activities towards them. In this article I would like to warn collectors about the simple



forgeries which appeared on our philatelic market a few years ago, and have now resurfaced in substantially larger quantities. It concerns newspaper wrappers with the address typed via "copying" paper on to a transparent white paper and addressed mainly to towns in Moravia. The provisional newspaper labels are perforated and printed in blue on white paper. The text

"Poštovné hotově zaplaceno" is typed directly on to the labels with the same typewriter. Labels are handstamped with the "Československá Polní Pošta", which is also forged. Examples, which I have seen, are dated 18.1.1919 (See illustration above). It is, of course, unnecessary to emphasize that the combination of newspaper labels and the Field Post cancellations are suspect. The forgeries belong to the less important label, but is nevertheless necessary to make collectors aware of them.

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VOITECH PREISSIG

By Miroslav Vostatek

Translated by J.J. Verner

During the First World War propaganda post cards urging the enlistment in the Czechoslovak Army were issued in the United States. They bore the following text "Postcard-issued by Czechoslovak Recruiting Office, Tribune Bldg., New York, N.Y. Designed and printed at Wentworth Institute, Boston, Mass." The following additional text appeared in Czech: "Volunteer for the Czechoslovak Army, either verbally or in writing to the Czechoslovak Committee: Chicago, Ill., 3743 W. 26th St.; New York, N.Y., 316 E. 72nd St.; Cleveland, O., 5286 Broadway; Pittsburgh, Pa., 524 Fourth Ave.; Omaha, Neb., 1429 So. 13th St.; St. Louis, Mo., 1308 Allan Ave.; Rosenberg, Tex., Rev. J.R. Vilt."

The post cards bear various illustrations of scenes representing the Czechoslovak Armies in France and Russia. From the point of view of color and graphic composition, they remain impressive to this day. Somewhere there is that mark of the author and if it is "P", it indicates Vojtech Preissig. I believe that even some post cards not initialed were designed by Preissig.



(See Fig. 1) I have read that an additional author of such cards was the sculptor Otto Gutfreund. Both his and Preissig's designs are represented on Czechoslovak stamps. But in addition, the Parisian Academic artist Cipra also was one of the designers, as well as the designer of the cancellation of the Czechoslovak Field Post in England during World War II.

Vojtech Preissig was born on July 31, 1873 into the family of a construction engineer in Světci U Bíliny. Following his studies at the Prague UMPRUM, where he studied with Alfons Mucha among others, he devoted himself to painting and graphics. During World War I he participated in the struggle for independence in France and visited the United States. In both countries he devoted his art to the struggle. His post cards and other propaganda materials date from this period. (See Fig. 2)

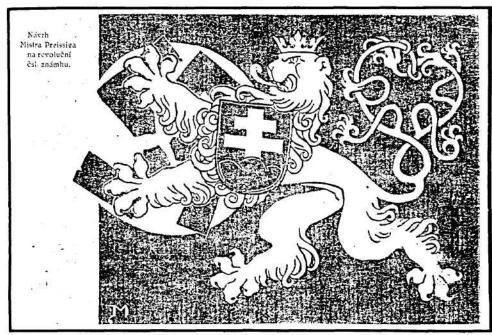
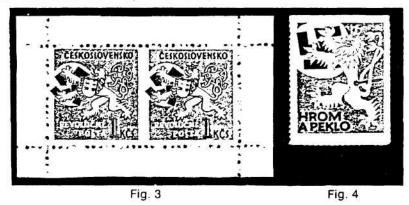


Fig. 2

During World War II he again devoted himself to the struggle for Czechoslovak independence. Together with his daughter Inka Bernášková, he published the illegal journal "V boj" (Into battle). Preissig did graphic designs and it is believed that his drawing of the Czech lion destroying a swastika put the Gestapo on his trail. (See Fig 3 &4). He participated in the conterfeiting of the Slovak State overprint on Czechoslovak bank notes. He was also the designer of stamps that were to be used after the War. They were engraved by the engraver Hrácha at the firm Šimáně on Opletalová třída, Praha II.



This design was also the subject of the cover of the title page of "V boj's" No. 50. His daughter Inka was supposed to smuggle the stamp design to the French Embassy in Budapest from whence they were to be transported to France and later to England. However, this plan did not succeed. The plates, which he was engraving at home just prior to his arrest, were

found after the war and so they never were used to print "revolutionary" stamps. More details about this can be found in FILATELIE, p. 72, No. 5, 1945 and FILATELIE, p. 752, No. 24, 1985.

On Sept. 21, 1940, the Gestapo imprisoned Preissig and his daughter Inka. Inka was murdered in Berlin on March 16, 1942 at the age of 38 years. Her father learned of it only in Dachau when he was already ill. He died there on June 11, 1944. On this occasion I must make

mention of my good friend from Rokyčan, Karl Kašák, who died in Prague recently. He survived six years in Nazi prisons and concentration camps and met Preissig in Dachau. He knew a lot about Preissig and thanks to Kašák, I gained not only information but also samples of Preissig's stamps and seals. This too belongs to postal history.

• In 1945, the town of his birthplace named a local school after him. On Sept 23, 1945, it issued a cancellation with the text "SVETEC - Opening of the Preissig School." (See Fig. 5).

This is what I know of Vojtech Preissig, whom I first met on a Czechoslovak stamp issued in 1988 (6Kčs). It depicted a work from the National Gallery. In my opinion this is the most beautiful and poetic stamp of Preissig's 1903 work.



Fig. 5

¹Československé Legie ve Francii: Malířske dokumenty, Památnik odboje, Praha, 1923 attributes 15 post card designs to Preissig.

THE NEW MASARYK VARIETY UPDATE

By Frank A. Garancovsky

Expertization of the stamp determined it to be genuine, and the details of expertization follow. "By no means does this stamp come from a new plate." With these sobering words, Henry Hahn goes on to explain his reasoning for this conclusion. (For prior descussion of this subject, see article on page 3 of the Sept./Oct. 1994 Specialist.)

Apparently the "short mustache" resulted from either damage to the plate, probably late in the printing cycle, or it is a printing variety. The grill lines show considerable variation when looking at a large number of these stamps. Reportedly there were 7700 sheets printed, consequently the plate would gradually wear more toward the end of the printing run. The fact of such a low printing volume of this stamp possibly precludes a "new" plate variety. The possibility however should not be totally rejected.

Some raised paper fibers near the damage were observed, possible resulting from the damaged plate and extending the distortion to the side of the face and giving the appearance of a short beard. The distances between the "beard" and the jacket are normal in both.

In my article I mentioned "other subtle differences". These were considered as not significant in the present context. The report concluded with hopes of someone finding another such plate variety and possibly determining the location within the plate.

Granted that the grill lines show considerable variation and raised paper fibers. The fact of the much cleaner squares within the grill work cannot be totally ignored if it came from a worn plate, nor can the distance between the "beard" and jacket as stated above. The distance from the end of the mustache to the jacket is the same. However the distance from the jacket to the white mass of the beard between the mustache and the face is 1mm. plus or minus on this new variety as opposed to 2 mm plus or minus on the mint stamp. This mass of white beard and mustache is solid and constant in both stamps.

If this new variety is the result of a worn printing plate, it seems strange that it would be localized in the narrowed elongated face and beard without affecting the other areas of such clear definition mentioned in the "subtle differences". A damaged plate is conceivable and Mr. Hahn has pointed that out as a possibility.

Shortly after publication of the article, I met with Mr. Hahn and discussed expertization. He suggested a second opinion, which will be done in the near future, not to antagonize my mentor, but to satisfy both of our curiosities. In the event of a second opinion confirming a "new"plate variety, what will be the degree of rarity? Obviously this current copy is rare in itself, but either way we have an interesting item for discussion for some time to come.

Meanwhile it is important to report the finding of additional copies to me as soon as possible. If this is a printing variety, a plate position may possibly be established.

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Our Society has the following books currently available at the quoted discount prices to our paid-up members:

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SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY

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Member of the Month



MEET W. ALEC PAGE

He was born in the Hammersmith section of London in 1921 and given the name William Alexander Page. But friends call him "Alec". What friends? Just about anyone in the philatelic community and beyond. Because Alec is himself a friendly and outgoing person who loves company, he will travel around the world to keep his old friends and make new ones. It was only this past November that he flew to New Zealand to renew old acquaintances with two of our own Society members - Gerald van Zanten (our assistant-editor) and Vladimir Kralicek, who is himself a writing contributor to our publication.

Alec first joined our Society in 1976 when he became seriously interested in Czechoslovak philately. However, his stamp collecting interests date back to his early school days more than 60 years ago.

Following wartime services in the Royal Air Force, mostly spent in India, he moved away from general collecting and concentrated on the Union of South Africa, but maintained an interest in several other countries. His original mild interest in Czechoslovakia was aroused almost by accident when he acquired a large collection of material which was far too interesting and varied to part with. Thus started another major collection - one that has been developed over 28 years and spans almost every aspect from forerunner material to the present day. Naturally certain areas hold a special interest as, for example, the World War II period and its aftermath.

Over the years, Alec has become much more involved in organized philately at all levels and started writing specialized articles, developing his writings into authorship and philatelic journalism at the international level.

Alec says he is not overly enthusiastic about competitive exhibiting but has, nevertheless, displayed parts of his collections at all levels, thereby gaining a variety of awards

Apart from his involvement with several other non-Czechoslovak Societies in the United Kingdom, the United States and South Africa, he is currently the Vice-Chairman and Publications Officer of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britian.

At the NOJEX show in May 1994 in the Meadowlands of New Jersey, he displayed not only a portion of his fine collection on World War II Czechoslovak Exiled Forces, (see Sept./Oct. 1994 SPECIALIST starting on page 5) but also displayed his personable style of presentation that made his audience aware of his knowledge of the subject and his ability to project his personality beyond the subject matter at hand. Our own Society salutes a wartime warrior and a current philatelic giant.

Editorial Hinges

GRATITUDE WITH CAUTION

Your editor has been happily overwhelmed recently by the ever-increasing mail from our members, many of them submitting stamps or covers of particular interest for illustrative purposes. Wherever possible, such philatelic material will be published so long as two conditions are met: First, the item must be identified as to its owner. Second, the submitting party should accompany that item with a brief description of its origin, its purpose and explanation of any markings it bears.



Fig. 1

Identification means that the member who submits it should have his or her name appear on it as either the sender or the addressee. Where the addressee is someone different or where there is no address or return name, the member should place his or her name somewhere on the reverse side so that the editor can return it to its rightful owner.

For example, shown in Fig. 1 is a cover sent to late Wolfgang Fritzsche from Ústi 'nad Labem on June 23, 1956. It came from a member of a Czech chemical plant (see return address), bore a special cancellation which, translated, reads: "Regional Exhibition of Postage Stamps - June 23, 1956-July 1, 1956" and passed through U.S. Customs on July 13, 1956. It is backstamped in Geneva, N.Y. on July 13 that year. Identification of owner is readily discernible.

But look at the article in this issue titled "Czechs on the Adriatic." Fig. 2 in that article shows a strictly philatelic cover with no addressee. Had that cover somehow become detached from the article, your editor would have had a problem identifying its rightful owner as Dr. Miroslav Vostatek as his name does not appear anywhere on that cover.

Your editor gratefully acknowledges these useful contributions to our SPECIALIST, but his gratitude is tempered by a cautious reminder that anyone submitting philatelic material for reproduction should carefully place his or her name somewhere on that piece so it can be returned to its rightful owner as soon as it is published.

NEW COVERS

From member Joseph Lacko we are pleased to print a cover cancelled on July 4, 1994 in Prague and sent to him in Union, N.J. The cover bears a stamp and special cancellation publicizing the 12th All-Sokol Meet in Prague that year (see fig. 2). From member Lubor Kunc of Prague comes this cover (see fig. 3) showing three of Czech Republic's no. I stamp with a special cancellation dated June 25, 1994 honoring the Postal Museum at Praha 1.

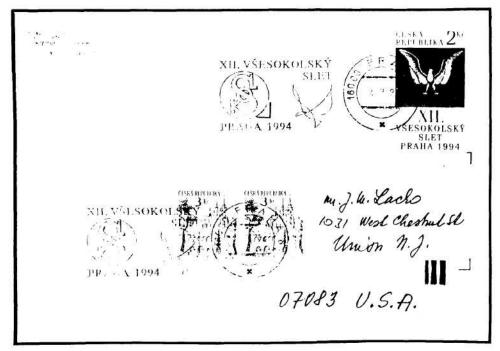


Fig. 2

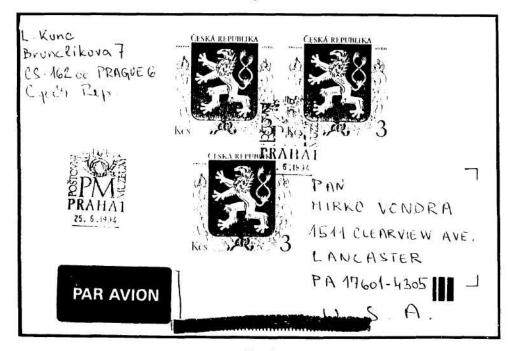


Fig. 3

NOMINATIONS, PLEASE!

The upcoming nominations to the Board were announced on page 1 of the SPECIALIST for Sept./Oct. 1994 with an accompanying Nominating Form on the bottom of page 27, same issue. The deadline for nominations has now been extended from Dec. 31, 1994 to the end of Feb. 1995. (Refer to Nominating Form on page 27).

As a fully paid-up member, you are requested to exercise your right and privilege to nominate your choice of candidate to serve on our Board of Directors. Those nominated will then be published in the SPECIALIST and the membership-at-large will have an opportunity to elect those whom it wishes to serve on the Board. It is these nominations and elections that help keep the Society vibrant and active in helping to give its members the best for their money. The only caveat is that you obtain the consent of the party whom you are nominating, sign the form and ask one other member to coutersign it. Then mail it to our secretary, R.T. Cossaboom, Box 25332, Scott AFB, IL 62225.

Please help keep the S.C.P. moving forward by nominating and voting for your candidate.

"FOR BEGINNERS"

At our Society's most recent Board meeting held last November at the VAPEX show in Virginia Beach, VA, Phil Freer, our Special Projects Editor, unveiled a remarkable paperback book titled "For Beginners". It is, as one might suspect, a synopsis of his columns bearing the same name and published in our SPECIALIST over the past few years.

The unusual booklet has been printed in a limited first edition to be offered to our paid-up members at a special introductory price of two dollars (\$2.00) a copy. Once the first edition is exhausted, it will be reprinted and sold to the general philatelic public at double the price.

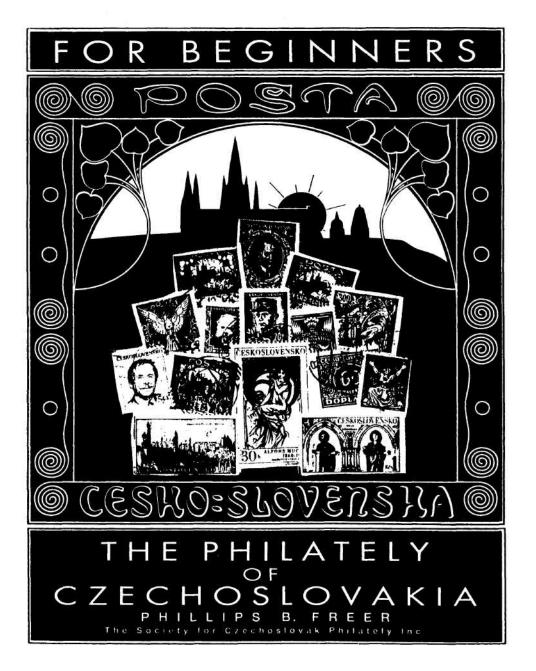
To avail yourselves of this special offer, order now by sending your request along with a check covering the number of copies you desire to our book sales manager, Ed Lehecka, 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

The cover, reproduced on the next page, is actually 8 by 11 inches in size and is printed in attractive red and green colors. Its 36 pages are in clear, readable print on heavy duty paper. Geared to those collectors who have only recently discovered the beauty and challenging nature of Czechoslovak philately, this book is a MUST in any collector's library, especially those who wish their children, young or adult, would "pick up and carry on" with their collections and exhibiting.

WELCOME, DONNA!

We wish to welcome a new addition to our editorial staff in the person of Donna Lyons. A relatively new member (no. 1675), she has agreed to assume the new role of Advertising and Publicity Manager for our Society. A somewhat complex and crucial function, the A & P Mgr. will seek advertisers for our publication while at the same time publicizing the S.C.P. and the SPECIALIST in other philatelic magazines, journals and newspapers.

We all wish Donna the best of success in her new endeavor and will give her all the encouragement and cooperation necessary to make her iob easier and more productive.



New Issues

CZECH REPUBLIC

1. On September 14, 1994, the Ministry of Economy issued a postage stamp honoring City Architecture. The stamp is a 6 kč showing a view of Slaný with its City Hall and with St. Gothard's Cathedral in the background. The size of the picture is 19 x 23 mm. and appears in green and ochre colors. Designed by academic painter and graphic artist Jiří Bouda with engraving by Bohumil Sneider, the stamp was printed at the Post Printery in Prague in sheets of 100 by rotary recess print for the green color and photogravure for the ochre color (see fig. 1).



Fig. 1

2. On October 5, 1994, the Ministry of Economy issued a series of three commemorative stamps showing the country's historic racing cars which have successfully participated in outstanding European races. They appear in denominations of 2 kč (1900 NW) in yellow, brown, grey, green and black; 3 kč (1908 L&K) in red, yellow, brown, grey, and black; and 9 kč (1912 Praga) in blue, yellow, brown, grey and black.

All three stamps were designed, drawn and engraved by academic painter and graphic artist Bedřich Housa who also designed the First Day Cover for the 2 kč stamp. The FDC's for the 3 kč and the 9 kč stamps were engraved by Martin Srb.



Fig. 2

The stamps come in sizes of 30×23 mm, and were printed at the Post Printery in Prague by rotary recess print in black combined with four-colored photogravure in sheets of 50 (see fig. 2).

As noted above, there is a first cover for each of the stamps. For the 2 kč, the cachet shows a drawing of the Tatra II auto from 1925 in black and yellow. For the 3 kč, the drawing shows a Skoda Popular auto from 1936 in black and orange. For the 9 kč, the drawing shows a Praga Super Piccolo from 1934 in black and red.

All stamps mentioned above are valid from date of issue until withdrawn from circulation.

3. On Nov. 9, the Ministry announced the issuance of a set of three stamps continuing the Art on Stamps series. The three stamps are as follows:

A - 7 Kč stamp -

AN OLD FOOL AND A WOMAN 1520 LUCAS VAN LEYDEN (1494-1533) 500th Anniversary of Birth NATIONAL GALLERY IN PRAGUE Engraver: Miloš Ondráček

Colors: ochre, black







Fig. 3a

Fig. 3b

Fig. 3c

B - 10 Kč stamp -

MOULIN ROUGE 1892

HENRI DE TOULOUSE-LAUTREC (1864-1901)

NATIONAL GALLERY IN PRAGUE

Engraver: Václav Fajt

Colors: ochre, red, green, blue, black

C - 14 Kč stamp -

OUR LADY OF ST. VITUS CZECH MASTER BEFORE 1396 Chapter at the St. Vitus in Prague

Engraver: Bedřich Housa

Colors: gold, ochre, blue, red, black

The stamps appear in a size of 40 x 50 mm. each and were printed at the Post Printery in Prague in sheets of four (4). Each sheet bears a text in red on the gutter which reads: "650 Let od Gotické Přestavby Chrámu Sv. Víta" (650 years since the Gothic reconstruction of St. Vitus Cathedral) with reproduced signatures of Matthias of Arras on the left and Peter Parler on the right in black. (see fig. 3a, 3b, & 3c).

Three First Day Covers were issued for each of the stamps done by recess print from flat plates made by the stamps' engravers. The cover for the 14 kč bears the engraver's view of the locket of St. Vitus as extracted from the painting "Our Lady of St. Vitus." Like the stamps themselves, the covers were printed at the Post Printery by rotary recess print from flat plates.



4. In addition to the above, the Ministry also announced the issuance of a Christmas stamp on Nov. 9. Having a face value of 2 kč, the picture shows a little angel cut out of Vizovice pastry hanging on the twig of a spruce tree. The picture is 23 x 30 mm. in size and was designed and engraved by Bedřich Housa. It was printed by the Post Printery in Prague by rotary recess print in black and brown combined with four-colored photogravure in gold, blue, green and ochre and issued in sheets of fifty.

The First Day Cover was printed by recess print from flat plates in blue. The cachet is a drawing of a small bird representing a Christmas decoration.

Fig. 4

All of the above new issues are valid for domestic as well as international mail from date of issue until officially withdrawn from circulation.

SLOVAKIA

1. On July 7, 1994, the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Public Works announced the issuance of three bird stamps in the Nature Conservation series. They are the 4 sk rock eagle, 5 sk peregrine falcon and the 7 sk eagle owl. (see fig. 5). The statistics are as follows:

Stamp Design: Ján Švec, acad. artist-painter Stamp Engraving: Rudolf Cigánik, acad. artist-painter Printing: Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague

Print Technology: Rotary-recess printing combined with recess printing

Print Run: 5,000,000 of each stamp FDC Design: Ján Švec, acad. artist-painter FDC Engraving: Rudolf Cigánik, acad. artist-painter Cachet Design: Ján Švec, acad. artist-painter FDC Printing: Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague Print Technology: Recess printing from flat plates

FDC Print Run: 10,000







Fig. 5

2. On August 1, 1994, the Ministry of Transport issued an 8 sk stamp commemorating the 120th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. (see fig. 6). The statistics are these:

Stamp Design: Oliver Solga

Stamp Engraving: Rudolf Cigánik, acad. artist-painter Printing: Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague

Print Technology: Rotary-recess printing combined with recess printing

Print Run: 3,000,000 FDC Design: Oliver Solga

FDC Engraving: Rudolf Cigánik, acad. artist-painter

Cachet Design: Oliver Solga

FDC Printing: Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague Print Technology: Recess printing from flat plates

FDC Print Run: 10,000



Fig. 6

SLOVAKIA'S PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF 1995 ISSUES

Our assistant editor, Gerald van Zanten, has been able to secure the following Schedule of stamps planned for issue by Slovakia during 1995. It is preliminary list and is therefore subject to change.

Date of Issue	No. of Stamps	Description International Environmental Year of Protection	Denominations on 2,3,8 ks.
jan. 10	3	memational Environmental Teal of Protection	On 2,3,6 KS.
Jan. 25	1	Nitra definitive	2 ks.
Feb. 9	1	150th anniversary of the Farmers Association	9 ks.
Mar. I	1	Slovak National Theater	10 ks.
Mar. 29	1	Hockey, Group B	5 ks .
Apr. 20	3	Great Personalities: Bartok, Bahyl, Stur	3,6,16 ks.
May 5	1	EUROPA 95: Peace & Freedom (Sheet of ten	8 ks.
May 18	1	Anniversary of Scouting	5 ks.
June 1	1	100 Years of "FILATELIA" in Kremnice	3 ks.
June 15	1	Nová Baňa definitive	4 ks.
July 19	3	Local Views: Banská Stiavnica, Spišský Hrad, Vlkolínec	7,10,15 ks
Aug. 16	T	Sports	9 ks.
Sept. 5	2	Bratislava's Illustrations of Authors	2,3 ks.
Sept. 12	L	Trenčín definitive	8 ks.
Sept. 15	Ü	St. Adalbertus Association	4 ks.
Oct. 23	E	80th Anniversary of Cleveland Treaty	5 ks.
Oct. 24	1	50th Anniversary of the U.N.O.	8 ks.
Oct. 27	Ï	Christmas	2 ks.
Nov. 29	2	Art on Stamps (Sheets of four): Hlohovec, Galanda	8,16 ks.

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- 2. Artia: Stamps of Czechslovakia, Wholesale Price List (1956, 24 pp. English).
- 3. Artia: Stamps of Czechslovakia, Wholesale Price List (1957, 24 pp. English).
- 4. Artia: Stamps of Czechslovakia, Wholesale Price List (1959, 83 pp. English).
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- 6. Ascher; Tschechoslowakei aus dem grossen Ganzachen Katalog (1928, 9 pp, German).
- 7. Basika, Karel; Sto Let Poštovní Znamky, 1840-1940, Historie a Vznik Poštovní Znamky (1940, 50 pp. Czech).
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- 17. Cross Stamp Co.; Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue of Germany and Occupied Territories (1937, 27 pp. English).
- Czechoslovak Philatelic Society; Bohemia-Moravia, Slovakia A Philatelic Handbook
 103 pp, English). (Two copies).
- 19. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society; Constitution of the (1964 Revision, 5 pp, English).
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- 21. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society; Skopeck, G.R. etal; English-Czech and Czech-English Vocabulary (1953, 92 pp, English). (Two copies).
- 22. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, Skopeck, G.R. etal; English-Czech and Czech-English Vocabulary (1955, 96 pp).

- 23. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Bernašek, Dr. Vladimir); Fundamental Philatelic Terminology, A Vocabulary in Czech/German/English (1978, 17 pp, Czech, German, and English).
- 24. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Page, W.A.); Monograph No. 1; Czechoslovak Army and Air Force in Exile, 1939-1945 (1981, 38 pp. English).
- 25. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Page, W.A.); Monograph No. 1; Supplement); Czechoslovak Army and Air Force in Exile, 1939-1945 (1982, 73 pp. English).
- 26. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Connolly G.E.); Monograph No. 2; Bibliography of Philatelic Literature (1982, 21 pp, English).
- 27. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Dehn, Roy A.); Monograph No. 3; The Pošta Československá Overprints (1985, 47 pp, English).
- 28. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Page, Juan E.); Monograph No. 4; Carpatho Ukraine, Postal Markings of the Years, 1938-1945 (1985, 39 pp. English).
- 29. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Reader, Roy E.); Monograph No. 5; Czechoslovak Army in France (1987, 46 pp, English).
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- 31. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (Negus, James); Monograph No. 7; Index to Articles on Czechoslovak Philately, 1950-1979 (1988, 15 pp, English).
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- 40. Ekstein, V.; Katalog Československých Známek, 7th Edition (1933, 116 pp. Czech).
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LIST TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE

SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To: R.T. Cossaboom Date:
Box 25332 Scott AFB, IL 62225-0332
I hereby apply for membership in the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc. and, if approved, agree to abide by the Society's By-Laws. (Check one of the Following:)
\$18.00 for annual dues/Regular Membership. This includes a one- year subscription to the Czechoslovak Specialist.
\$30.00 for annual dues/ Patron Membership. This includes a one- year subscription to the Czechoslovak Specialist and a bound vol- ume of all issues for the subscription year.
\$3.00 for annual dues/ Youth Membership. Limited to persons under 18 years of age. (Please list Date of Birth)
Foreign members residing outside the U.S., please add \$5.00 for surface mailing. \$10.00 for airmail delivery.
Total enclosed
Remit by check or money order only. Do not send cash or stamps.
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PLEASE PRINT:
Name: Age:
Name:
Name: Age: Street: State: Zip: Telephone Number: Collecting Interests: Membership in other societies:
Name:
Name: Age: Street: State: Zip: Telephone Number: Collecting Interests: Membership in other societies:
Name: Age: Street: State: Zip: Telephone Number: Collecting Interests: Membership in other societies: Applicants: Signature: NOMINATING FORM We, the undersigned, certify that we are paid-up members in good standing and hereby nominate as candidate for a seat on the Board of

(USPS 808300) 2363 McCLEARY DRIVE

CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201

— Correct Address Requested —

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