

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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Editor Frank Kovarik, 2502 So. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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No. 9

EDITORIAL

Much of the mail received from those who are in the Armed Forces of our country contains complaints that those in civilian clothes fail to realize we are in a struggle unto death for the preservation of those ideals left as a sacred heritage to us by the Founding Fathers of the Republic. A horrible accusation, yet how true! Let us resolve now, to stand solidly behind those who are giving their all that we may enjoy the blessings of the four freedoms. If we fail them now, and they return to us as losers, how will we be able to face them? Dig deep into your conscience now, before it is too late!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

We are again faced with the task to elect the men who will administer the affairs of our organization during the coming two years.

In the past weeks the Election Committee has been at work to select and propose the candidates for the new term. Herewith we submit for:

President: Rudolph Secky, New York.
1st Vice Pres.: Vincent Domanski, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.

2nd Vice Pres.: Rudolph Novy, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Secretary: Joseph W. Lowey, Bronx, N. Y.

Treasurer: Guy Greenawalt, Richmond, Va.

It should be emphasized that the

candidates are our first choice and in our opinion represent capable men within our Society. However, it is up to the membership at large to propose additional candidates. If you have a special choice, please send your list to the secretary at latest by November 15, 1942.

The Election Committee,
Frank J. Kovarik, Chairman.

NEW MEMBERS

111. Edmund Waltuck, P. O. Box 75, Lynchburg, Va.
112. Alfons Hospach, 513 Arlington Pl., Chicago, Ill.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

William Klemm, 80 Seaman Ave., New York, N. Y.

John Velek, 2229 Kimball Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Peter Kreischer, 251 W. 108th Pl., Chicago, Ill.

Maj. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, 4th Service Command, Camp Shelby, Miss.

Joseph Novy, 340 W. 72nd St., New York, N. Y.

Does anybody know the present address of Pvt. E. J. Michaelson? The editor would like to send him back copies of the Specialist.

WANTED

AUSTRIA: #34 mint or used in lot, pairs, blocks, etc. A. N. Weiner, (#107), 5054 N. Kenmore Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Officers of the Czecho-Slovak Philatelic Society of North America

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

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

Treasurer: Guy Greenawalt, 4506 Monument Ave., Richmond, Virginia

A Modern Classic

By John Velek

(Continued from last issue.)

Position 93—Point on left side of 4 of 40.

Position 96—Dot inside sun.

Position 97—Line in margin at lower left edge of stamp.

Position 98—Two dots above tower furthest to the right.

Position 99—Dots along left frame line.

Position 100—Colored dot above T of Posta.

Plate II

Position 3—White dot on roof near right arch.

Position 5—Small colored dot enclosed in 0 of 40.

Position 6—Large white dot in K of Slovenska (Fig. 4).

Position 7—White dot below P and colored dot in O of Slovenska.

Position 9—Leg missing in P and right leg of A thick in Posta.

Position 10—Break in frame top above right spiral.

Position 12—Point on upper right bush near arch. Similar to Position 82 Plate I except that this stamp has no ray missing over sun.

Position 13—White spot in center tower, known as the 'Clock' variety (Fig. 4).

Position 14—Break in top frame line over P of Posta.

Position 15—Ring in tail of left dove.

Position 17—White spot in K of Slovenska. This differs from position 6, in that the spot is smaller, and in the bottom of the letter (Fig. 4).

Position 18—White spot on cathedral roof (Fig. 4).

Position 20—Small white dot midway between bushes.

Position 21—Break after E of Slovenska. This can be distinguished from 79, I, by the first tower from the right being bent slightly towards the right.

Position 23—Break over E of Slovenska. This is a long break and will not be confused with 79, I, or 21, II.

Position 25—Ring in shield. Similar to Plate I, but in this case the ring touches the shield line.

Position 26—Short breaks in frame above Posta.

Position 28—White dot below S of Posta.

Position 31—Break in upper left

corner. Later stages show broken line almost worn away.

Position 33—Top frame missing at right.

Position 38—Small colored dot in lower right part of value shield.

Position 40—Flag on steeple. Same variety as 40, I, but can be distinguished by small break in frame over first S of Slovenska and small dot on frame over S of Cesko.

Position 41—Break over E of Slovenska. This is almost the same as 21, II, however, here tower is straight.

Position 43—Breaks in top frame over P of Posta.

Position 44—Frame line bent over L of Slovenska.

Position 46—Dot before 4 of 40.

Position 47—White spot near right arch (Fig. 4).

Position 49—White blot in base below right bush (Fig. 4).

Position 53—Break in K of Cesko. This is similar to 53, I, but Plate I has two dots above extreme right tower, while Plate II has only one dot.

Position 54—Break in frame over O of Cesko.

Position 56—Colored dot in O of Posta.

Position 57—Small colored dot on bottom shield line.

Position 58—Frame bent before P of Posta.

Position 61—Break over first S of Slovenska.

Position 64—Small white dot in base panel below right bush.

Position 68—Two short heavy lines above sun.

Position 69—White line joins O of Posta to arch.

Position 70—Short break in frame line below 40.

Position 71—White dot in extreme left of base panel.

Position 73—Small break in upper left corner.

Position 74—Large white dots on upper left side of roof, and below K of Slovenska (Fig. 4).

Position 81—Break in left frame line just above O of Cesko.

Position 84—Frame missing over A of Posta.

Position 85—Large break in upper left corner.

Position 86—Break in left frame line near lower spiral.

Position 88—Break in left frame line, slightly higher than 86, II.

Position 89—0 to 40 joins shield. Similar to Plate I except in this stamp

the ray is missing from the sun.

Position 90—Break in top of value shield.

Position 91—Fork in upper right corner. Similar to 91, I, except that Plate I has a small colored dot before the 4 of 40. A late stage (Fig. 4) of this variety shows a large colored blot almost covering the dove at the left.

Position 92—Frame line missing above A of Posta.

Position 97—Break in base of tower at extreme right.

Position 98—Line joins 0 of 40 to shield line. Similar to 89, II, except in this stamp the line slants to left instead of right (Fig. 4).

The above list includes all the important constant varieties. It is quite a formidable lot, but at the same time a very interesting group that can be completed by anyone taking the trouble to go through dealers' lots of these stamps. One also can, in this way, run across printing varieties; large blot; that are not important, but worth having in a collection.

Cancelations

In my opinion, cancelations form the most interesting study in almost any early stamp. The 40h, though a comparatively recent adhesive, is no exception with its early Austrian and Hungarian, and modern Czech cancelations. This subject would be a large article in itself if we did not limit it to a brief outline of the different major types.

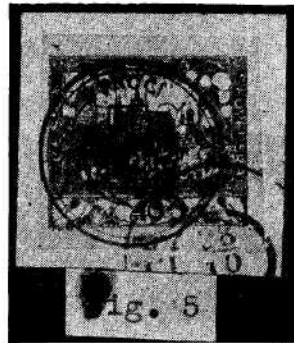
The first group is the Austrian single and double circle cancelations. There are many types of these cancels, some including hour of mailing, and locality of origin, such as Silesia, Moravia, and Bohemia. There are also parallel line cancelations of many types, and the scarce straight line cancel. The Czech-German bi-lingual cancelations are especially interesting since many postmasters took out the German name after the declaration of the republic, using only the Czech name until the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs furnished them with new stamps. A famous Czech collector who recently came to this country said that these doctored cancelations are much sought for in Czechoslovakia, and that many are very rare. The railway cancelations are a rare group, showing the two terminals of the run, and the train number. A modern Czech cancel is the machine cancel with the 12-16 concentric circles. The most common Hungarian cancel-

ation is the double circle with the symbolic crown inscribed. Much scarcer are the Hungarian railroad and straight line cancelations. Probably the most desirable obliteration is the postwar 'Censurovano' (censored) in large block letters. Black is the usual color of the cancels on these stamps; violet is comparatively common; and green is the scarcest.

The 40h on original cover is fairly common, and forms an extremely interesting item. There is an endless variety of stamp combinations, cancels, and business corner cards that amply repay the collector who takes the trouble to look for them.

First Anniversary Overprint

The postmaster at the Praha 3 post office seems to have taken an unusual interest in philately, for many of the most interesting varieties of this issue originate from this office. On Oct. 28, 1919, the first anniversary of the declaration of the Czech Republic, the 40h stamps were overprinted with a double circle and inscribed with '1918-Vyrcel-1919' (one year anniversary),

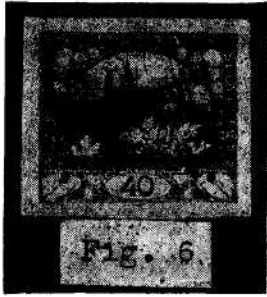


and the Czech coat of arms (Fig. 5). The overprint was privately applied, but the stamps were officially accepted for postage which made it a legitimate variety. The copy I have is tied to a piece of cover with the Praha 3 cancelation, and is dated Oct. 28, the exact date of the anniversary. Who was responsible for the overprint, the exact number overprinted, and other details concerning it seem to be unknown, and I would like to get in touch with any one having further information.

Overprinted Postage Dues

Because of a shortage of postage

due stamps in some post offices, the Hradcany stamps were sometimes overprinted and used in their places. The 40h stamp I have is overprinted

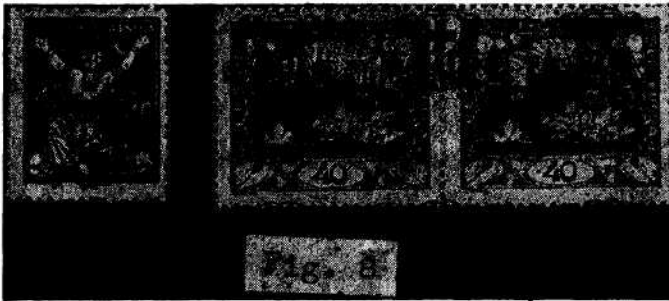
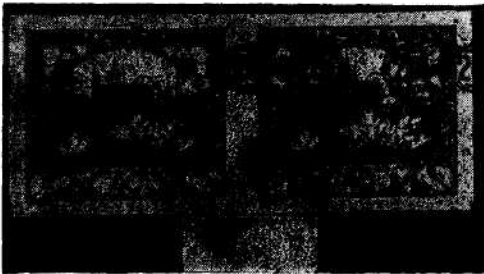


in violet as follows: 'Doplati' (To pay balance due) reading diagonally (Fig. 6). I also have a copy reading 'Porto' (due) in black diagonally upward, used at the Praha 3 post office. Since there are several other types of postage due overprints on the other values, they may also exist on the 40h.

Red Cross Overprint

On Dec. 15, 1920, the 40h stamp, along with several others, was issued with a Red Cross surcharge. The added 20h was given to the Red Cross. The stamp was printed in olive yellow from the original plates. Design

of the overprint was made by Alois Mudrunsky; 1,100,000 copies were issued, and they were accepted as postage until Jan. 14, 1921. Many proofs exist of both the actual overprint and of an essay. The original surcharge plates were made for the small 'chain-breaker' stamps (inverted in Fig. 8) and when the Hradcany were chosen instead, new plates had to be made to fit the larger layout. I have the essays on the 5, 30, and 40h values (Fig. 7). The imperforate pair illustrated is from the left edge of the sheet, the small plate just reaching the last row of stamps. Trial printings of the accepted design were made on the 5, 30, 40, and 60h values. The illustrated pair in Fig. 8 is the 40h perforated $13\frac{1}{4}$ in the original brick red color, using the small trial plates, and making three impression on every two stamps. The stamps as issued were comb perforated $13\frac{1}{4}$ (Fig. 9) and copies exist imperforate (Fig. 10). Also found are those printed in olive yellow, but without surcharge.





Eastern Silesia Overprints

Eastern Silesia was a strip of territory in eastern Europe that was occupied by Czechoslovakia after World War I, and later was divided between Poland and Czechoslovakia. The stamps of both these countries were overprinted S. O. (Silesia Orientale) and were used in this territory from Feb. 13 to Aug. 10, 1920. The remainders were sold through the Philatelic Agency until February, 1928, when most values were already gone. Of the 40h stamp, 250,000 copies were overprinted in black (Fig. 11) and occasionally in blue. There are many plate varieties in the overprint, mostly breaks in the letters. According to the authoritative book 'Ceskoslovensky Znamky' by Hirsh and Franek, there were three plates used for the overprint. They also state that breaks were repaired from time to time, and that the positions of the type set overprints may have been changed around in the process. In my own collection, plating is not far enough advanced to give definite information on the plate and position numbers of individual items.

Other varieties existing are wide spacing between S and O (almost twice the normal spacing) and overprint off center. One of the plates has a single S. O. in which the O has a much narrower space in its center, and is known as the oval O variety. In other cases the 9 and 2 of 1920, and the 2 and 0 of 1920 are crowded together. Black overprints are perforated 11½ and 13¼. Blue overprints exist imperforate and perforate 13¼. Postally used copies are much scarcer than mint, but only stamps with genuine town cancellations can be considered postally used (Fig. 112). Many were canceled to order after they were invalid for postage, and

these have little philatelic value.

There are several counterfeits of the S. O. overprint, but they are easy to detect. In most cases the S. O. is quite well executed, but the 1920 has misformed letters, or the numbers are out of line. Comparison with an original will detect the counterfeit in every instance.

This concludes the information I have at hand on the 40h stamp and its related issues. I hope I have revealed new facts to collectors of these stamps, or at least to those who are not able to translate the Czechoslovakian accounts. I will always be grateful to those who can furnish corrections or new information.

**AUSTRIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
GERMANY
HUNGARY
POLAND
BALKAN
and
BALTIC STATES**

Always of general interest.

Will fill want lists or send on approval.

References, please!

JOHN H. BEERMAN
23 Frost Lane, Hewlett, L. I., N. Y.

I hereby offer my collection consisting of covers, cards and supplementary material of

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

for sale. Originally it was my intention to bring this property on the open market but realizing that the members of the society should have first chance I changed my plans, and in consequence this is the first announcement of the sale.

Upon request lots will be sent for inspection to out of town members with the understanding that they pay postage both ways. New York members can inspect the collection any evening after 7 P. M. at my residence. However I will appreciate it if they will drop me a card informing me of their intention.

As was the case with my stamp collection,—first come, first served! Also I repeat to those living at distance—write per Air Mail.

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

Lot	Description	Net Price
TRANSITION PERIOD POSTMARKS		
1	Old Austrian single and double circle, timble and small circle types, mixed Czech-Austrian franking, etc., etc.	\$10.90
2	Stampless	2.50
3	Bilingual Czech-Russian Postmarks	4.85
4	Bilingual Polish-German Postmark	1.00
5	Hungarian Postmarks	12.25
6	Emergency Issues	2.50
VARIOUS POSTMARKS		
7	Railroad and Train Cancelations	7.75
8	Airmail	7.00
9	Auto Post	1.00
10	Meters70
COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS		
11	Honoring Masaryk, Benes and other Personages	15.00
12	Anniversaries of the Republic	2.50
13	Philatelic Expositions and Events	12.25
14	Sokol Festivals, Olympics and other Sport Events	23.60
15	Music, Painting and other Arts, Cultural and Social Events	6.45
16	Child Welfare	5.25
17	Catholic and Protestant Events	10.60
18	Zionist Congresses and other Jewish Events	12.60
19	Red Cross and Medical	2.40
20	Commercial Expositions and Fair, Anniversaries of Cities and Institutions and other Events	7.00
REGULAR POSTMARKS		
21	Applied to issues from 1918 to 1940, including censored Covers after 1938 from the Protectorate	25.50
22	Bisects on Covers	8.00
23	Stamp Freaks on Covers	12.25
24	Postmarks of the Czech Army in England	Various Prices