

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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Editor Frank J. Kovarik, 2502 So. Kedzie Ave., Chicago 23, Ill.

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## EDITORIAL

As we prepare this issue of the Specialist for the printer we listen to "Il Trovatore" from the Metropolitan Opera. It is strange how easy it is (for us) to work as the music permeates our study; yea, how difficult, how utterly impossible, it is for us to work when forced by circumstances (the younger generation) to listen to jazz or jitter-bug music. Just as good music quiets jittery nerves, so stamps calm us and increase our productive capabilities. We recall our most trying times—between December 7, 1941 and August 15, 1945. We had time for nothing but work and sleep and not much of the latter. At such times we turned—not to stamps, for we had very little time for that, but to write about stamps, which meant preparation of copy for the Specialist. In those days the Specialist was really poor in quantity; the quality was the best we could offer under those conditions. Fortunately, our members appreciated our efforts and difficulties and had faith in us by remaining contributing members of our Society. Our efforts of the last few months tend to show that their faith was not misplaced. We are in a position to offer to our members an average of ten pages of Specialist each month, which means one hundred pages this year. If our strength and quantity of material doesn't disappoint us, we may publish the Specialist in July and August, providing our Auction is a success. We trust that our members will cooperate in this venture as the "old timers" cooperated in keeping alive your Society during the war years.

## CZECH COLLECTION AT GARFIELD-PERRY

The Czechoslovakia Government exhibit of stamps for the 1947 International Philatelic Exhibition in New York May 17-25, will receive its American "pre-view" at the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club meeting in Cleveland on Friday, February 28. G-P member K. Zahradnicek arranged for this showing through Ladislav Smolik, executive secretary to Minister Hala in Praha, and at this meeting the Cleveland Czechoslovak Consul, Dr. Dvorak, himself a philatelist, will speak briefly on philatelic conditions in Praha during the German occupation, where he lived during the war. The albums will then be shown by member George Blizil.

Another "first" for Garfield-Perry will be the first public showing of this collection at its annual exhibition and party, March 14-16.

The club cordially invites all members, friends and collectors interested in this country's issues to view the collection at its premier at the February 28 meeting, 8:00 P. M., Hollenden Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio.

## NEW MEMBERS

- 256. James B. Glaze, 10910 Avenue O, Chicago 17, Ill.
- 257. John F. Schattan, 21-47 27th St., Long Island City 5, N. Y.
- 258. Vladimir Svozil, Zinskeho 7, Olomouc 6, Czechoslovakia.

### TO MEMBERS OF THE CLEVELAND AREA

Mr. Roman Reinowski will be in Cleveland for the big Garfield-Perry Show and will bring with him the auction lots so that interested members may know what they could bid.

Incidentally; it is hoped that the exhibit shown at the Garfield-Perry show featuring beautifully centered material and mentioned in another item of this issue of the Specialist, may be shown at the Chicago show and auction.

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### NEWS and VIEWS

by the editor

A recent letter from Praha tells us that in a very short time three new stamps will be issued as additions to existing issues. A 1Kcs value will be added to the regular issue; a 9Kcs value will be added to the present air post stamps and a 25h value is to be added to the newspaper stamps. Also, following a request to the P. O. D. a commemorative or rather, a memorial stamp will be issued, on the fifth anniversary of the Lidice massacre.

\* \* \*

Another letter from our president acquaints us with the news that Czechoslovakia will join the host of nations paying philatelic homage to our late president, the great humanitarian, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In the gospel of St. John we read: He came unto his own and his own received him not. The same can be said of Roosevelt; liberty loving people of the world think more of him than his own countrymen at home because political dirt is smeared over his labors and accomplishments and every ill, real or imaginary, is blamed upon the man whose nature was so mild.

\* \* \*

Another note from the same source ties in on our second paragraph, page 10, last month's Specialist. Our president, Mr. K. Zahradnicek, is ready to take your wants, re first-day covers, direct from the Praha Philatelic Agency. For further particulars write to: Mr. K. Zahradnicek, 12704 Holborn Ave., Cleveland 5, Ohio.

Our membership has grown to such proportions that your editor finds he is spending too much time addressing envelopes when mailing out the Specialist. An arrangement was made to purchase addressograph plates with the address of every member; the Addressograph machine will be loaned to us by a friend. Another innovation introduced by our Society will be a reminder to pay your dues. Next year, instead of devoting so much space to dunning delinquent members, the treasurer will send a statement and ask the recipient to please remit to the treasurer the sum of one, two or five dollars as dues for the ensuing year. If you failed to pay your 1947 dues, this is your last opportunity. Any member who fails to pay his dues by the end of March will be dropped from the rolls, and will fail to receive the 12 page issue your editor promises in April.

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### AGAIN — MEETING—AUCTION—EXHIBITION

In our last issue of the Specialist we mentioned that the Chicago group intends to hold a large meeting in combination with an exhibition of pages from the collections of our members and an auction for the benefit of the Society. Donation lots of stamps are to be sent to the chairman of this committee, Mr. Roman Reinowski, 1939 Highland Ave., Berwyn, Ill. Unfortunately, we are sure additional lots for this auction will be received after the publication of this issue of the Specialist; in this way the Chicago group has the advantage of securing these unadvertised items. If this venture proves a success, we shall work on a similar project for the spring of 1948. Herewith is a list of the donors to the auction, known to us as of February 15, 1947: Members Billig, Blizil, Glawe, Hrivnak, Kovarik, Kreisler, Kreisinger, Mates, Novy of Pittsburgh, Reiner-Deutsch, Reinowski, Velek. Non-member Loidolt.

## YOUR AUCTION

Kindly send all mail bids to Mr. R. Reinowski, 1939 Highland Ave., Berwyn, Ill. The auction will be held Sunday, March 23, 1947, in the afternoon, at Olympic Hall, 6136 W. Cermak Rd., Cicero, Ill. Attention to successful bidders: Remittance to be mailed for lots received within 10 days of receipt. We thank all who in any way contribute to the success of this effort.

Lot	Description	Scott No.	Value
1.	1918-19 Block of 12—4x3	4	.36
2.	Printer's waste, 40h (3), 3+40h (2), 50+40h (1) 6 blks 4 (est.)		6.00
3.	1920-25 10h 2 pl. nos.; 20h 2 pl. nos.	83-84	.18
4.	200h—not quite centered	93	3.00
5.	300h—fine	94	2.50
6.	Composite die proof in deep red of the 40, 50, 60, 100, 185 and 250h—very scarce	71 * 91	15.00
7.	1926-27 50h horiz. pair with pl. No. 1	116	.60
8.	3K single—pl. no. 3	138	1.50
9.	1936-38	213, 214, 244, 245	.37
10.	1936	218-226	2.87
11.	1937 50h and 1K—with tab at right	232, 233	.25
12.	2K with right and left tabs	235	.50
12A.	Bratislava Sheet	239	.20
13.	1938 Sokol set with left tabs	246-248	.41
14.	Pilsen and Kosice pairs with ornamental gutter betw 249, 250		.40
15.	Bachmac with right tabs; Independence with left tabs, 228, 229, 253, 254		.65
16.	Moscow set comp.	262A-265	.35
17.	Cover with coat of arms set minus 2.40h	266-271A	?
17A.	Partisan set	288-292	.75
18.	1946 60h Benes and 1.20 Masaryk carmine bl. of 4		?
19.	Kozina, Havlicek and Student Congress		.65
20.	1947 Two Year Plan in pairs		.60
21.	do., in blocks		1.20
21A.	Postal card—Banska Bystrica—1.50 Type similar to	268	?
22.	Semi-postals—bl. of 12, 6x2	B7	.36
23.	Bl. of 16, 4x4	B8	.80
24.	Single	B55	1.50
25.	Single, not quite centered	B85	.50
26.	Singles, bottom right and left tabs	B151	.40
27.	Masaryk Sheet	B152	1.25
28.	Anniversary of liberation set	B156-158	1.00
29.	do, sheet only	B158	.75
30.	Brno Sheet		.40
31.	First Day Cover, Brno sheet, Brno stamp, Hodonin		.75
32.	Air Mail	C21 & 24	1.00
33.	C21 on First Flight Praha-New York		.85
34.	C24 on First Flight Praha-New York		1.00
35.	Newspaper, 5 copies with various pl. nos.	P2	?
36.	6 copies with various pl. nos.	P2	?
37.	Pl. nos. 2 on P4, 1 on P5		?
37A.	Dues. 2, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, used		.71
37B.	J35 to J41. First two mint, balance used		.49
37C.	J44 to J49 used		.57
37D.	Misc. dues and one pair on cover		1.32
37E.	Bodenbach "Wir sind frei" on Doss Alto		?
38.	Bohemia-Moravia. Blocks of 4, #1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10		5.08
39.	Singles with tabs	36-40	2.50
40.	do x #39 without tab		2.50
41.	Same as above		2.50
42.	mint	62-83, 90	3.41
43.	used	62-83, 90	2.05
44.	mint: 84, 90, B9-14, B21, B27-28		1.15

45.	mint .....	B22-24	.65
46.	mint .....	O13-24	.45
47.	Slovakia. Mint .....	1	.20
48.	Lower right corner block of 4 with pl. # A1 .....	33	1.60
49.	Blocks of 4—#43 and 43A, Perf. 10 on 43A .....		.56
50.	Blocks of 4 mint .....	45-47	.36
50A.	Mint .....	77-82	1.50
51.	Used singles .....	C4-6	.85
52.	Eastern Silesia. Billig's #8, yellow paper, perf. 11½x11¾, very scarce .....		15.00
53.	Duas. Complete .....	J1-11	3.85
53A.	Cancellations. Bratislava, Death of Masaryk & Turcianske Teplice, First European Chamber Music Festival .....		?
54.	Czechoslovak Field Post Cover from England .....		?
55.	Commem. Cancels. Karlovy Vary, 28. X. 45. Anniversary Celebration and "laying of Memorial tablet to honor Pres. Benes" also 27. X. 45. Honor to Allied Armies" 3 cancels on 1 cover		
56.	Same as above .....		
57.	Praha, 21. X. 45. "World Student Congress Exhibition"		
58.	Same as above .....		
59.	Praha, 24. XI. 45 "Student Congress" .....		
60.	Same as above .....		
61.	Large cover franked with London, Moscow and new issues, commemorating two events, one of these convention of Partisans.		
62.	Post Card. 9. V. 46. "First Anniversary of Liberation" ..		
63.	Same as above .....		
64.	Set of Benes Portraits on first day cover commemorating anni- versary of the Republic and advertising two Year Plan		
65.	Czecho. mixed lot mint .....		3.49
66.	Mixed lot used .....		1.15
67.	Billig's Specialized Catalog of Stamps of Czechoslovakia ....		1.00
68.	Same as above .....		1.00
69.	Same as above .....		1.00

In most cases where plate nos. are noted, value should be higher than indicated. Have your mail bids in before March 22, 1947. Thank You!

#### A LONDON ISSUE NOTE

Did you know that Captain Otakar Jaros, who fought with the first Czechoslovak Brigade on the Soviet-German front, was the first foreigner awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union? Unfortunately the award was made posthumously. He was killed during the summer of 1943.

Captain Jaros is pictured on the 20h and 2 Kcs. values of the London print Heroes series of 16 values (Scott Nos. 274 and 282). At the time of his death, Jaros fought under the command of Colonel Ludvik Svoboda (later Brigadier General), head of the First Bogdan Khmel'nitsky Czechoslovak Brigade.

Following below is a brief news item from the Information Bulletin of the USSR Embassy, dated October 16, 1943:

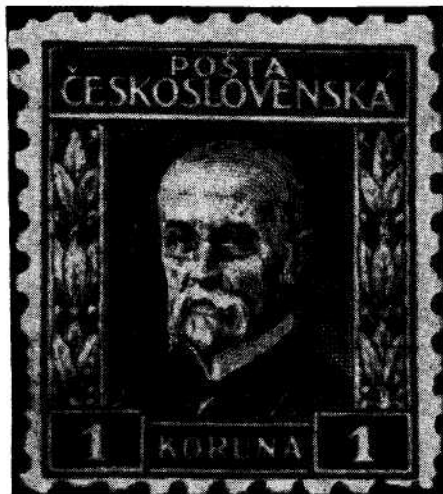
"Nadporuchik Otakar Jarosh, who fought with the Czechoslovak troops in the USSR and was posthumously awarded the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star of Hero of the Soviet Union, died a glorious death in action. "Do not let the enemy pass, Brother Jarosh," said his commander, Colonel Svoboda. "He shall not pass, Sir," Jarosh replied. He kept his word, remained faithful to his people and to the pledge he made on the day he realized that his place was at the front fighting the enemy of his country and of the fraternal Soviet Union. Jarosh's memory will remain forever fresh in the hearts of the Czechoslovak and Soviet peoples. A nation with such sons will never be subjugated!"

G. A. B.

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## MASARYK STAMPS

by G. Greenawalt and F. J. Kovarik



TYPE VI

In the spring of 1926 a new die was prepared which incorporated further changes in an effort to improve still further the appearance of the design. On the stamps printed from plates prepared with this die the shade lines are deeper, particularly, on the head and face of the portrait, thick border lines enclose the lower shields and the marginal border line is much thicker. The size of the format is 19 x 21¼ mm.

One printing form, consisting of two plates of 100 subjects each, was used in the printing, which commenced in April 1926. The plates were marked 11, 11A.

The stamps were printed on watermarked paper and all four horizontal watermark positions exist, with positions 5 and 7 the scarcest. The color is carmine red. The perforation is 9½. The stamps were placed in circulation in July 1926.

In 1927 the use of watermarked paper was discontinued and unwatermarked paper was used thereafter. A relatively small number of stamps of this type were printed on the unwatermarked paper.

Ekstein catalogue lists a transparent paper with watermark 7 and stamps printed on carton paper.

## SALES AND EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

If anyone has duplicates for sale, please mount them in books and send them in, I always need new stamps for circulation and don't wish to take dealers stock, as long as our own members have stamps to dispose of. Now that the war is over and there are again approval books on the market, please do not use any more home made books. I am trying to have our own books printed, if I find something suitable and from that time on we will use only our own Society booklets. Whoever has stamps, now is the time to mount them and send them in. Many have promised books to me, but never made them up as yet, so please do it now.

There was a time last year, when I had nothing else to send out but 10 booklets with very cheap stamps. Some members have complained about it, however at that time I had nothing else, and strange as it seems, the complaining members were those who had books promised, but have not come through

with them as yet. If I have enough good material I certainly will refuse cheap stuff, although that disputed circuit sold out very well and brought a very high percentage of sales, which shows that in some collections there are cheap items missing too. I know it is so with my own collection and probably with others too, therefore the cheap stuff is necessary also, but if I have enough choice I can place one or two such books in a group of better stamps.

Last year 12 circuits were mailed out, which is our standard average of one a month. They contained 91 booklets and one group of entires, total value: \$1385.81, three of those circuits are still on their ways. Some circulated fast, others very slow, #57 for example is not even half through, so when it reaches you, please speed it up. Please make it a rule to look the circuit over the minute you get it and mail it out as soon as possible thereafter and don't leave it in the drawer of your desk until you are good and ready, always remember, others are waiting for it too, just as you waited for it and the owner wants his book back at a reasonable time just as you yourself would expect it back after half a year and very few of our circuits are through after half a year.

Again I have to ask you: Send me books for circulation.

After you receive a circuit, don't keep it more than 2 or 3 days, let's speed up the circulation.

Wolfgang Fritzsche

3317 Glenwood Road, Brooklyn 10, N. Y.

### THE COLLECTOR'S LAMENT

by W. L. Russell

Who hath woe? Who hath contentions? Who hath babbling? Who hath corns on the bosom of his pants? Me, when I set me out upon the search for a "Prijezd" Overprint!

I go forth in the morning with a light heart and clean linen, and be even-tide do possess but soiled raiment and heel blisters!

I run hither and yon, from this dealer to that; in the auction-marts am I gazed upon pityingly, and at kerbside-klubs the frosty glare is my portion!

Peradventure mine ears are gladdened by joyous tidings—one, Dagwood, of Woopville, Ark, hath Scout stamps with overprint aplenty. So I run, with much oof in one hand and a sandwich in the other, to catch a train which departeth in the middle of the night. And upon arrival at Woopville, with a heart full of whoopee, I, who did but beg bread, am offered a stone—this Dagwood possesseth naught but Siberian silhouettes!

And so I wander from village to burg. I meet Jeff here, Mutt there, and eke an honest citizen or two. I tarry at wayside hostelries, and should I order the maid-servant to bring me amaneggs, she placeth before me liver and bacon, even as I am assailed by the collected efforts of mine host's little boy, should I but be foolish enough to e'en hint of mine quest.

At bedtime I say unto this same host, "Call me at five, that I may catch the train to Kalamazoo, where liveth one who hath his walls papered with "Prijezd" overprints. He murmureth "Okay babe," and before 'tis yet light, whilst I still dream that others have beaten me to it, mine host bangeth on the door, crying "Time to get up!"

So I crawl out in haste, girding myself quickly, putting my right foot into my left shoe, and my shirt on back to front. And I do pack my collar in my hat, to be coiled round my neck later, in the train.

When I arrive at the depot I find that it is but 3 a.m.

I go forth upon my journey, and if perchance there be a sympathetic brother-collector on the train, he taketh a seat five cars away; but should there be also travelling a purveyor of forged stamps, with a wart on his nose, no manners, and halitosis, verily he taketh the seat nearest me!

Of a truth, man that is born of woman and goeth forth upon the "Prijezd" crusade is of few days and variegated rations. Today findeth me enjoying three square meals, and tomorrow I subsist upon a bag of peanuts. Yet am I content; for in the end will I rest in the Paradise reserved for all true practitioners in philately, wherein are no varieties or provisionals; where shades exist, 'tis true, but not of colors! Selah!

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

- 17. C. J. Pearce, Coalgate, Okla.
- 106. K. Zahradnicek, 12704 Holborn Ave., Cleveland 5, Ohio.
- 208. John W. Price, 1248 N. Detroit St., Los Angeles 46, Calif.
- 238. Capt. W. T. Klepura, Soledad, Calif.
- 247. Anthony J. Cifka, c/o A. E. Pade, 1641 Stout St., Denver 2, Colo.

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