# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

## OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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No. 169

#### **EDITORIAL**

During thirty-one Christmas holidays your editor suffered with the rest of the Post Office personnel the hardships of the seasonal rush. At long last the patrons have learned to mail early; we recall that in the first years of our postal career the rush never started until about December 15 and we had less than ten days to distribute and deliver holiday messages and the regular business mail. Since the end of World War II, great improvement has taken place; most people see the folly of mailing late and the Christmas rush starts with the first of December. On behalf of the overworked clerks and carriers your editor thanks you for your cooperation. Keep up the good work.

We have retired from the service. We owe it to ourselves to leave earlier than intended. Our accidents have not lengthened our life expectancy; they may have shortened it. Our philatelic activities which have been increasing annually deprived us of much leisure we had hoped to have to edit your Specialist. We have mail at home which should have been answered many months ago. It is our hope to clear our desk and then tackle the problems confronting our Society.

Last month we published a story about our Show and Auction. The financial report and a report of the Chicago Group meeting will bring to you a realization where the Chicago Group failed but where the Society as a whole failed even more. While the show was not a financial fiasco definitely it was not a success. We all can beat our breasts and cry mea culpa, but that cannot help much. We should resolve in this new year 1957 to devote more time to improve our Society. Members are asking for handbooks but when asked to subscribe to a fund to enable us to publish the handbook only three members (an increase of 50% over last month) thought it worth while to send in advance a check for \$10.00.

We have promised a biography of the late Ervin Hirsch who has done a tremendous job to promote Czech philately in Czechslovakia and elsewhere. He had access to the largest, most complete and best collection of Czechoslovakia in the world and from this with Franek wrote the only worth while handbook on the stamps of the country covering the period 1918-1934. In 1948 he wrote and the government published "30 let československé známky" (30 years of the Czechoslovakian stamp); though a beautifully illustrated book it was a far cry from his first adventure. His most recent work on the Praha Postal Museum which we reviewed about a half year ago was quite thorough in two or three phases of Czech philately and we were looking forward to his promised monograph which was to be a continuation of his and Franek's first opus. Death stopped his hand. He will always live in the

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many articles he had published in the philatelic press and in the volumes of TRIBUNA he edited and published will be a monument to his zeal. We had many differences with the man. He was an autocrat. He could not bear criticism. But for all his faults he was a great scholar.

We had hoped before now to print a report on the celebrations in Melbourne in which our member and friend, William L. Russell, was honored. These have not yet reached us; only two newspaper clippings which we reprint in full:

Last night Mr. Russell was presented with the International award for Philatelic Achievement of the American Philatelic Society.

"It came right out of the blue," he said today. "They didn't even look at my stamps!"

Mr. Russell has confined his collecting to five countries . . . Australia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, New Guinea and Fiji.

"And I think Australian stamps are as good as any in the world. But I would like to see some brighter colors in future," he said.

Mr. Russell isn't particularly interested in multi-color stamps—"Collect jam labels if that's what you want," he said.

He looks for the design and engraving of a stamp.

Mr. Russell is on the design advisory committee of the GPO. He designed the "Penny Princess" stamp of 1948.

His own collection—including 20 albums and many thousands of stamps—has been built up over many years. He can't remember when he began collecting, it was so long ago. "I was only a boy, anyhow."

Mr. Russell spends about two days a week on his albums, unless he gets really absorbed in the work. Then, he admits, his wife is very often a "stamp widow."

#### CITATION FOR PHILATELIST

The International award for Philatelic Achievement of the American Philatelic Society was presented to Mr. W. L. Russell of Moonee Ponds last night.

Mr. Russell is the first Victorian to receive this honor.

The presentation was made by Dr. E. Druker, international officer of the American Consulate, at a meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, last night.

Mr. Russell is a member of the council of the society, and is one of Melbourne's leading philatelists.

The citation praises his work on the stamps of Czechoslovakia, as a member of philatelic exhibition committees, and as a member of the Post Office stamp design advisory committee.

Two more collectors from Czechoslovakia wish to exchange stamps and firist day covers especially with American collectors. They are: Josef Tulach, Ktová 38, p. Rovensko pod T., Czechoslovakia and František Horák, Turnov I, Pionýrů č. 246, Czechoslovakia.

Early in December all associate mem'ers were mailed their premium, Volume XVIII, of the Specialist. If any member who paid \$5 failed to receive the volume mailed flat, please contact your editor immediately. Soon after the holidays the volumes to be bound for the patron members shall be delivered to the bookbinder.

In the Chicago Group report you may read of the reason why your Society is in straitened financial circumstances. You are asked to purchase the bound volumes of the Specialist we have on hand and thus help bolster a failing treasury. We find it hard after almost 14 years of service as your editor

to plead for money not to increase the number of pages of the Specialist but to retain the 16 pages we have been giving you for so long a time. Please take this to heart and help. By helping your Society, you are helping yourself. Remember that without our publication the stamps of our choice would fall into the philatelic doldrums where they were so long.

#### CHICAGO GROUP MEETING REPORT

A well-attended meeting of the Chicago Group took place Sunday, November 25, in the home of member Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr.

The first item of business was the financial report of our show and auction. The attendance at the exhibition was good; the material exhibited was above the average; the location of the hall and the hall itself, especially with due thanks to member Janecka for the excellent lighting effect which surpassed all known shows to date, could hardly be improved. Yet, had it not been for three cash donations we would have ended in the red.

In the first place the Chicago group failed to realize that a \$30 increase in the rental of the hall hurt financially. For many years we asked \$8 for the bourse tables and until last year the bourse tables almost paid the hall rent. We still charged only \$8 but this sum paid only about 60% of the hall expenses. An adjustment in this respect is in order. We circularized all members asking them to show their material. This request was made by first class mail and overseas members received theirs by air post. It failed to bring in more material from out of town members and so the added expense and trouble was wasted.

The rest of the members failed in this respect: In the past, a goodly portion of the auction material was donated by the members so that whatever money this brought in was clear profit. This year donations were very few and with a few exceptions not too valuable. We know of one case where a dealer donated a rather expensive item, in wonderful condition, but the bids were so ridiculously low, he bought it back at a bargain. When we realize that donated auction material brought in more than \$100 in the past and this time only about \$25 we can readily see that the only true benefit we had was enhanced prestige of the Society. Of course, prestige has its value, too, but we can't pay the printer with such coin.

Our Society always depended on the auction income to help pay the expenses of the Specialist. We have about 200 members; of these 12 are patron members paying \$10 annual dues and about 40 associate members who pay \$5 annually. The printing and illustrations of every issue of the Specialist costs over \$60; this shows that dues do not pay the printer. We must depend on the ads to pull us through and with the help of the auction we have been doing well.

Another unintentional mistake of the editor and treasurer was the binding of old Specialists to help pay our expenses at Fipex. We were certain that many old but especially the new members would avail themselves of this service and we expected the bound volumes to sell like hotcakes. We were terribly disappointed. Members can help now by purchasing these bound Specialists; if we could sell all of them our treasury would get a nice healthy shot in the arm to the tune of about \$600. The dictionary was not a failure but it failed to show a profit.

As far as the dictionary is concerned some of the members pointed out that it was a grave mistake to have published it serially in the Specialist. Purchasing the volume would be like buying two books instead of one. We fail to see the logic unless the members removed all the material from the Specialists and made a separate book for themselves. Unless bound, it cannot give them the service.

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Some members suggested we raise the dues; some suggested that we cut down the number of pages; still others thought we should emulate some of the European publications by publishing an occasional double number with only one month's number of pages. Most members objected to any of these proposals; your editor stated that he has enough confidence in the members to believe they'll come through somehow. This is the beginning of a new year, dues are coming in. If you pay your dues promptly and if we sell a portion of the bound Specialists on hand, we must be able to weather the storm. Read the ad in this issue of the Specialist and learn how many volumes of which years are still on hand.

Your editor told of two philatelic publishers who are interested in producing our handbook and/or handbooks. Your editor said he'd be willing to have them take over but they would have to employ the Czech diacritical marks (supersigns), otherwise the book would be valueless. He cited maps made by cartographers of the National Geographic Society who are meticulously careful that the name places be spelled out as the natives do. Failing in this we might as well give up the idea, any catalog would suffice. He was empowered to contact Czech language printers in the Chicago area and obtain an estimate on the cost of this production. When asked how many members signified their intention of helping this project financially he answered: "Two"; since the meeting one more check came thru.

Next meetings of the Chicago Group will be held at 2:30 P.M. Sunday January 20. Frank Kovarik, 2502 So. Kedzie Ave. February 17. John Velek, 6218 W. Diversey (Note: This is a new address)

#### 9th MAIL SALE

No.	Suggested	bids:
1	BEFORE 1918 to 1920 cards and covers, stamps on pieces, all	
	OLD AUSTRIA, with Czech cancell. total 58 pieces	8.00
2	Cards and covers from 1918/20, 47 itoms	
3	28 cancellations on Austrian stamps, Czech towns	4.50
4	Scout Stamps *	2.25
5	same used	
6	Statni Posta, overprints compl up to 10Kc	17.50
7	28 Porto Hradcany. Hradcany stamps overprinted D, T, Porto etc	
8	Jehlizska, 5 K stamp perf. and imperf	1.50
9	Srobar more than compl set * and °	24.00
10	Budedjovice issue compl up to 10K Used	3.50
11	PROVISIONAL NEWSPAPERS, 6 very good stamps	
12	SIBERIA, set 13% compl *	_ 1.90
13	HRADCANY compl set perf and imperf (common) to 1000	2.50
14	10h green IMperf *	
15	20 h red SUPERB copy * Imperf	
16	30 v purple imperf superb *	8.00
17	3h Original sheet with all flaws *	_ 3.00
18	same PERF compl sheet	3.00
19	5h compl sheet of 100	3.00
20	10 red compl sheet with the "clock in the tower"	_ 3.00
21	20h green compl sheet of 100	3.00
22	25h blue compl sheet of 100	3.00
23	11 different sheets (6 Hradcany sheets and some others)	11.00
24	62 covers franked with Hradcany stamps (some cards)	7.00
25	2200 mixed Hradcany stamps all used	12.00
26	22 Hradcany, all PERF *	1.00

0000000		50 22502 025
27	38 Hradcany waste prints	
28	Legionair stamps, 38 better perf in blocks	_ 5.00
29	waste prints, 14 diff.	_ 1.50
30	POSTA 1919, 10K light violet, superb	18.00
31	10K Hungary Parliament, vf	
32	Airmails compl., superb	
33	10K Porto vf	
34	set of 55, all vf	_ 7.00
35	11 diff INVERTED overprints, high cat	_ 8.00
36	Masaryk 1920 issue, 1.25, 500 and 1000h all *	
37	125 h ultramarine both imperf and perf	_ 4.00
38	1923, compl issue (4) *	_ 1.00
39	same used	1.30
40	1925 Congress compl *	4.00
41	slet compl * 1925 1K vertical watermark *	4.00
42		
43	2K vertical watermark * 3K ver	40.00
44 45	5K vertical watermark * and °	1.00
46	complete set vertical watermarks °	2.00
47	DOVE & ALLEGORY, complete set of TETE BECHE used	10.00
48	DOVE & ALLEGORY, same Unused	
49	AIRS, first set, superb *	5.00
50	second set perf, superb *	10.00
51	the rare perf of the fourth set *	6.00
52	1930 Masaryk with coupons (lower) *	2.00
53	same upper coupon *	2.00
54	TYRS compl set in blocks superb *	8.00
55	same lot	8.00
56	special Del stamps all of them and the error and white paper	7.00
57	S. O. compl set up to 1000 h (postage)	
58	compl set of dues	_ 1.00
59	Masaryk stamps superb * (Scott \$70)	15.00
60	set up to 1000h used, scarce	_ 3.00
61	7 diff errors	
62	6 covers with S. O. stamps	
63	B & M. nice specialized coll. with tabs, coupons, gutterpairs, favour	
	sheets reprints, covers in album	18.00
64	136 covers Boh. & Mor. vf lot	12.00
65	1200 1948 third rep. stamps used some on covers, nice lot, high cat.	8.00
66	130 covers second and third rep	12.00
67	5,000 stamps of Cze., Boh. & Mor., also bundles	_ 5.00
68	Album with nice stamps, value at least \$100	<b>50</b> .00
69	Box with duplicates, covers, booklets	. 10.00
70	3 small coll. of Czecho nice, value \$40	18.00
71	Box with about 60 postcards of Czechoslovakia with stamps	6.00
72	100 postal stationary * and ° some very rare	. 1 <b>0.</b> 00,
73	Lot of 16 covers all prior to stamps, cancell on Czech terr., stampless	16.00
74	Nice lot of postwar stamps 1945/47 all * incl the gutterpair set of	
	the helmet set	
75	Czech ducat vf (gold)	_ 5.00
76		<b>2.</b> 00
	End of Sale	
	Books close on Jan. 25, 1957	
	ALFONS STACH	20
Ρ.	O. B. 387	Mass.

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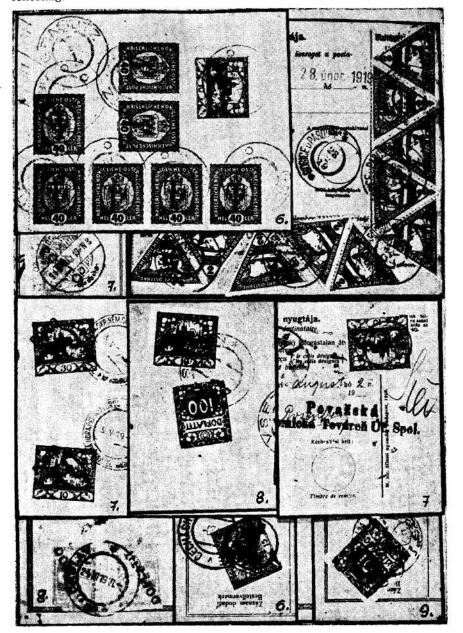
Czechoslovak Specialist

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#### EMERGENCY POSTAGE DUES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK TRANSITION PERIOD Zdeňek Kvasnička

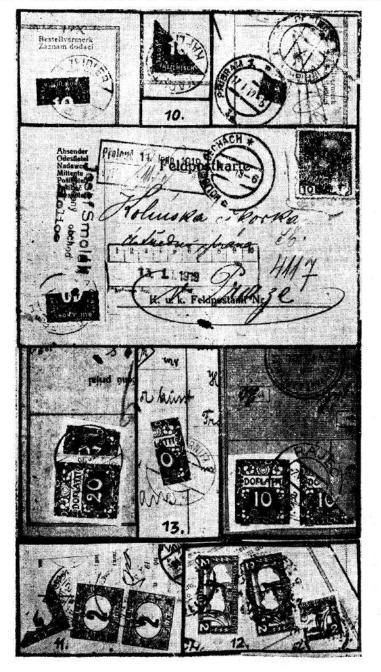
Postage due stamps are for the purpose of collecting a full fee on mail which was posted unfranked or underfranked. The addressee pays double postage as a penalty. The receiving postoffice shows the amount of defi-

ciency and stamps it with a letter "T" (tax) or "P" (Porto) (fig. 1). The delivering postoffice affixes the proper due stamp, cancels it and writes the amount to be collected by the mail carrier. Should the addressee move, the postoffice then cancels the dues with a handstamp NEPLATI or BEZ PLAT-NOSTI (fig. 2) and the next postoffice takes care of affixing new dues and collecting.



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High values seldom seen on ordinary mail are common on official mail, because the government does not pay postage on mail to individuals but assesses the cost of the postage by using dues. They are a convenience and



save the postoffice bookkeeping. In the transition period, current issues of stamps were used for dues by writing across them with pencil or pen (fig. 3).

In 1918 and 1919, when the printing house was unable to supply sufficient stamps to all postoffices, it became customary to use any kind of stamps as dues. The use of dues is a strictly official business, so these makeshifts have at least a semi-official status, even though the authorities did not sanction them. During this period everything was used, Austrian, Hungarian and even the new Czechoslovakian stamps using manuscript or handstamp, bisecting or quartering them to achieve the desired value. There was an exception in Trenčín (Slovakia) where the dues were handstamped PORTO, apparently for political reasons.

It was but natural for the collectors to discover these oddities and some of them used the kindness of the postoffice clerks to get them, even though there was no necessity for their use at that particular office. That, however, doe not detract from the value of those actually needed.

A circular put out by the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, June 8, 1920, directive no. 29, forbade individual postoffices to handstamp current stamps with a "T", DOPLATIT, PORTO and similar practices, but in spite of that in 1926 Kremnice postoffice bisected a current stamp and so did Moravský Krumlov in 1927. Břeclav handstamped DOPLATNÉ on a 1 Kčs Masaryk stamp and Plzeň used airmail stamps as dues. These exceptions, though, do not belong to our group emergency dues of the transition period.

The provisionals are divided into individual groups and listed in alphabetical order. The listing of the first two groups is temporarily held in abeyence, because of the dearth of material and because they are not as important as the following groups that are handstamped and bisected.

1. Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovakian regular, special delivery and newspaper stamps used as postage due stamps (fig. 4).

 Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovakian regular, special delivery and newspaper stamps cancelled with handwritten words—DOPLATNÉ, DO-PLATIT, DORUČNÉ, T, P, PORTO, AVISO, BESTELLGEBÚHR, PORTO-MARKE, ZUSTELLUNGGEBÜHR, and others (fig. 5).

3. Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovakian regular, special delivery and newspaper stamps handstamped "T" (fig. 6). These handstamps are of various sizes and shapes. Some have the letter "T" alone and some are in circles or oblong frames. The following list shows the names of post-offices where these handstamps were used. Original names are used if in German or Hungarian. In bilingual names only the Czech name is shown. The list is complete up to the present time, but other names may yet show up.

Aš 1—Czech. 5, 15 hal.
BRNO 1—Aust. 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 20, (T in a circle)
Czech. 20
BRNO 2—Aust. 5, 10, 15, 20.
CUKMANTL—Aust. 5.
Czech. 10/IV.
ČESKÝ DUB—Czech. 10/IV.

ČESKÝ KRUMLOV—Czech. 5/IV, 10, 20/IV. DOUDLEVCE—Aust. 20, newspaper 10, 30.

Czech. 5, 10.

EGER 2 (CHEB)—Aust. 3, 5, 6, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 hal. 1, 2, 3, 4K, spec. del. rectangle 5.

Czech. 3, 5, 10, 20 hal. FRANZENSBAD—Aust. 10, 20.

GRASLTZ (KRASLICE)—Aust. 40.

Czech. 5, 10, 20.

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KARLIN-Czech. 5, 10 10/IV.
KLADNO-Czech. 5/IV, 10/IV.
KRALOVICE-Aust. spec. del. 5 hal.
           Czech. 5, 10.
KRALUPY n. Vlt.-Aust. 5, 10, 20, spec. del. 5 hal.
           Czech. 5, 10, 20.
KR. VINOHRADY-Aust. 5, 10, 20, 40, spec. del. 5 hal. newspaper 10 hal.
           Czech. 5.
KUSCHWARDA (KUNŽVART)-Czech. 5, 10, 20.
NERATOVICE-Aust. 15, 25.
NEM. BROD-Aust. 5, 6.
           Czech. 5, 15, 20.
PILNIKAU (PILNIKOV)—Czech. 5.
PLZEŇ 1-Aust. 10, 15, newspaper 10.
PLZEŇ 4-Czech. 10.
STUDNICE v č.—Aust. 20.
           Czech. 15, 20 (T in a circle)
TEPLITZ-SCHÖNAU 1—Czech. 5, 10, 10/IV, 20.
(TEPLICE-ŠANOV 1.)
TURNOV-Czech. 25.
ÚPICE-Czech. 50.
VELKÁ VES na dr.-Aust. 3, 12, 15, 20, 6, spec. del. 2, 5, newspaper 4, 6,
           10, 30.
ZUCKMANTEL b. TEPLITZ, Czech. 10/IV.
(CUKMANTL v č.)
4. Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovakian regular, special delivery and
   newspaper stamps handstamped P, PORTO, PORTOMARKE etc. (fig. 7)
BAVOROV-Czech. 20.
BAKOV u ÚSTÍ-Aust. 20.
           Czech. 5.
BLANSKO-Aust. 5.
           Czech. 5, 20.
BLEISTADT 1.—Aust. 5.
(OLOVÍ)
BRNENEC-Aust. 5, 20.
BŘECLAVA-Aust. 3, 6, spec. del. 2, 5, newspaper 2 hal.
           Czech. 3.
BŘEZOVÁ-BOHDAŠÍN, Czech. 20.
čESKÝ KRUMLOV-Czech. 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 5/IV, 10/IV, 30/IV.
čESKÁ TŘEBOVÁ—Aust. 20.
DOBRUŠKA-Czech. 5, 10, 20.
DOKSY-Aust. 20.
DUNASZRDAHELY-Hung. 2 fill.
(DUNAJSKÁ STREDA)-Czech. 5, 10, 25, 30, 40.
DVOREC n. Mor.-Czech. 10, 20.
FRÝVALDOV-Aust. 5.
GABLONZ a.d.N .- Aust. 1, 5.
(JABLONEC n. N.)
HOCH SEMLOWITZ-Czech. 5.
(VELKÉ SEMNEVICE)
CHRUDIM-Czech. 5.
CHÝŽE-Czech. 5.
GROSSDORF b. BRAUNAU, Czech. 5, 10, 20, 25.
(VELKÁ VES u BR.)
JAVOROV-Czech. 10.
KNEžEVEC u. R.-Aust. 20.
           Czech. 5, 20.
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KÖRMECZBANYA-Czech. 10, 20.
(KREMNICA)
KRÁSNÁ HORA-Czech. 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50.
LUDITZ (ZLUTICE)—Czceh. 5.
MNICHOVICE—Aust. 20.
NAGYBITCZE—Hung. 5 fil. (PORTO in an oval)
(VELKÁ BYTČA)
NECHANICE-Czech. 5, 10, 20.
NERATOVICE-Czech. 20, 40.
NOVÉ BENÁTKY-Aust. spec. del. 5 hal.
NOVÉ ZÁMKY—Hung. 2, 3, 5, 15, 20 fill.
OŘECHOV, okr. Brno.—Czech. 10.
OSTROMEŘ—Aust. 15.
PARDUBICE-Aust. 15, 40. hal. 1, 2K.
            Czech. 5, 15, 20.
POKAU b. AUSSIG-Aust. 20.
(BUKOV u ÚSTÍ)-Czech. 5.
POZSONY 1.—Hung. 2, 5 fill. (large letter P)
BRATISLAVA 1.
POLICE, n. M.—Aust. 15, 20.
            Czech. 3, 5, 20.
PLATTEN b. KARLSBAD-Czech. 20.
(BLATNO u KARL)—VARŮ
PLÁNICE-Aust. 6.
PRAHA 8 .- Aust. 15, 20, 25, 30, 40.
             Czech. 5, 10.
PRAHA 13.—Aust. 20.
Czech. 5, 10.
PRAHA 14.—Aust. 5, 10, 20, 25, spec. del. 5, newspaper 2, 6, 10.
             Czech. 5, 10, 20, 25, newspaper 2.
PRACHATICE—Aust. 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 40, 50.
Czech. 3, 5, 10, 20, 25.
 RONŠPERK-Aust. 5, 10, 20.
             Czech. 20.
 ROSSBACH-Aust. 5, 15, 20, spec. del. 5.
             Czech. 5.
 ROSICE u PARDUBIC-Aust. spec. del. 2 hal.
 ROHLAU i. B .- Czech. 5.
 REICHENAU-Czech. 20.
 (RYCHNOV)
 SANGERBERG-Czech. 5, 20 (usually without date)
 SKALICE u č. LfPY-Czech. 20.
 SUŠICE-Czech. 5, 10, 10/IV.
TACHAU (TACHOV)—Aust. 20.

Czech. 5, (small and large PORTO)
TIEFFENBACH a. d. D.—Czech. 15.
 (TIEFENBACH n. D.)
 TRENCZEN (TRENČÍN)-Czech. 5, 10, (P in a circle)
 ÚPICE-Czech. 40, 100.
 VELKÉ SEMNEVICE-Crech. 5.
 VELKOVES u BROUMOVA-Czech. 5, 10, 20 (PORTO) 10, 20, 25 (P in
             a circle)
 VOKOVICE-VELESLVIN-Aust. 5, 10, 15, 20.
             Czech. 5, 10, 20.
 VIESENBERG-Czech. 20, (PORTO in a frame)
 VIMPERK-Czech. 3, 5, 10, 20, 15.
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VLAŠIM—Czech. 5, 10, 20. VYSOKÉ n. JIZEROU-Czech. 5, 20. (PORTO in black, red and violet). VSETIN-Czech. 10. WERNSTADT-Aust. 3. (VERNEŘICE)-Czech. 5, 10. WEIPPERT (VEJPRTY)—Czech. 5. ZAHLINICE—Aust. 20. ZNOJMO—Czech. 5, 10, 20. ŽABOVŘESKY-Aust. 20.

(To be continued)

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

John Velek, 6218 W. Diversey, Chicago 39, Ill. Frank J. Zaviska, 3640 W. 63rd St., Chicago 29, Ill. R. F. Slobodo, Box 56, Church Lane Rd., Englishtown, N. J.

FINANCIAL	REPORT	OF	THE	1956	EXHIBITION
INCOME					FYDENGES

II. COME		EALENSES	
Donations	\$43.64	Hall rent	\$150.00
Bourse tables	96.00	Guard, tables	28.75
Auction profit	89.10	Trophies	35.08
Frame fees, ins., etc.	48.50	Printing, misc.	36.10
	277.24		249.93
		Income	\$277.24
		Expenses	249.93
		Profit	27.31

# Czechoslovakia

Naga - (10.7) - 1752	2000 DOM	- Sec.			J. J	
Scott #	Single	Corner	(4)	Sheet	343-345 11th Sokol50 1.25	5.
			4 c	orners	346-349 University50 1.25	5.
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