THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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Vol. XIX

February 1957

No. 170

EDITORIAL

The holiday season came to an end and this means a resumption of normal activities until next December. All the hustle and bustle is gone; the Christmas mail has been sorted and the nice stamps and cancellations put aside to be saved. A little flair of anger passed the face when a heavy ink smudge was seen on a perfectly centered Palomar stamp. A big question mark appeared when a dealer who deals exclusively in U. S. used off centered ordinaries on his mail to his clients. All that is gone now and will soon be forgotten.

We hinted and those of you who get FILATELIE know there is a big controversy sweeping the old country about the status of the so-called Revolutionary Issues of Czechoslovakia, the Scout stamps and the Siberian Lions. We have been following the reasons of the author and originator of the new theory and cannot reconcile ourselves to the thought that he boosted and peddled the issues he is knocking now. We cannot understand how he could help Hirsch in the compilation of the first Czechoslovak Handbook "Československé Známky" and now repudiate his own work. We have written to many collectors in Czechoslovakia and we haven't found one who agrees with Franck tho' some are of the opinion that in view of the quantities printed and the semi-official status of these stamps, the prices should go down. (Of course, that is the opinion of the have-nots; when they acquire the material they feel the price should go up "in view of the scarcity and limited use of the stamps in question".) Franck's lengthy article which sounds like the anti-Stalinist confessions of recent and all but forgotten months, has been translated by our good friend George Skopecek and checked by our busy Dick Spofford. We have several signed rebuttals and others who request their names be withheld from publication. The signed responses came before the Hungarian uprising when more or less open rebellion against directed thought was not only tolerated but sponsored by the Kremlin. We do not want to hurt our friends and when this controversy is aired in the Specialist your editor will reserve the right to withhold the authors' names. We promise you some exciting reading.

Your editor wishes to apologize to the New York Group for failing to publish the report of their meeting in the last issue of the Specialist. The New York group is planning an exhibition this Spring; if it doesn't conflict with your editor's present plans he shall come to New York for your Show and extend his personal apologies. Last month the readers read the Chicago report and in this issue they have the New York report.

You are requested to study the annual report of our treasurer (and if

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you failed to pay your 1957 dues now is your chance). We knew things weren't too dark when George greeted us with "Put in your bill for expenses" but we answered "It is a good investment; when we go for our vacation is usually the time when we collect from the Society." Returning to the treasurer's report: You will notice that we do have some very good members who are willing to subscribe a sum as high as \$165. to offset a very large deficit contracted at FIPEX. We are sure that without these contributing members we would have a poor, almost non-existent Society.

You recall the Chicago Group report of the last issue. Your editor contacted several printers in the Chicago area. One of these was a member of the same group to which we held allegiance some 35-40 years ago. His estimate was almost the same as that of the others contacted but because he offered suggestions, we will quote his figures exclusively. Our plan was to publish the Bohemia-Moravia, Slovakia and Carpatho-Ukrania sections first. We estimated a total of about 100 pages and possibly 500 copies to be printed. We were acquainted with the fact that the most expensive part of the deal is setting the type and this expense is the same whether we publish 100 or 1 million copies. The same holds true about the illustrations. Setting the type would cost between 8 and 9 hundred dollars, the cuts would cost about \$300. The next expense would be the covers for the paper bound editions; binding either in paper or cloth is the next costly item. Then we have the shipping charges from printer to binder to the one handling the sale. There is postage to pay when the books are being dispatched to the purchasers. Money must be spent for some small amount of advertising; if nothing else copies to be reviewed are sent to some 30 publications.

If we were guaranteed the sale of some 1000 copies we could sell the hand-books about \$4 paper bound and \$5 cloth. We are rather skeptical of this number to be sold; we've had some bitter experience. Publishers of well known philatelic books tell us that if 1000 copies are sold they consider themselves lucky, and their publications have a wider appeal than our limited field. Most of the bigger and better handbooks were helped financially to a considerable extent. We were told of one book selling at \$5 a copy postpaid, of which not 1000 copies were sold and for which the sum of about \$4000 for illustrations was donated by one Maecenas. If we took all our members, stood them in one line then suddenly turned them upside down and shook them vigorously, we couldn't shake that sum out of them.

Our friend suggests we publish the handbook in serial form in the Specialist in the same manner we published the vocabulary, then have the printer run off another 300 or 500 copies of only this portion on a finer paper and our expense would then be negligible. Broks produced in this manner could then be sold for about \$3 or \$3.50 and some money could thereby be made for the treasury.

The above will be brought up at the January reedings of the New York and Chicago groups and we trust that something concrete can emerge as a result. Your editor had visions of shelves of books devoted to Czechoslovak philately; one is ready for the printer now; a revised edition of member Kvasnicka's articles on the postmarks of Czechoslovakia with an addenda of a complete listing of all available postmarks. The work has Leitenberger and Vacek combined beat hollow. But it is impossible to go through with this plan; the apathy of stamp collectors is well known. Most of them are not interested in philatelic literature; only in the acquisition of more and more stamps.

An urgent appeal to a friend in Australia brought us a photo of friend and member Bill Russel as he was presented with the International Award for Philatelic Achievement of the American Philatelic Society. The story and picture appear in this issue of the Specialist. It couldn't happen to a bet-

ter man. AD MULTOS ANNOS!

Your editor was literally swamped with Christmas greetings from members of the Society. We thank you all for your thoughtfulness and assure you we shall at all times do our best to merit your love and appreciation of our efforts.

Those of you who are looking for correspondents and exchange friends may write to Jan Lipa, Chocen, 1067, Czechoslovakia.

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK GROUP MEETING

The last meeting of the New York Group was held in the chambers of the Collectors Club Friday November 16, 1956. The meeting was attended by 10 members: L. M. Horechny, E. Michaelson, G. B. Kaplowitz, N. Feiwelsohn, W. Schoenig, L. Flynn, A. I. Kessler, E. G. Pobuda, J. Stein and a guest from Kutztown, Pa. Mr. J. B. Strauer. Dr. W. Reiner-Deutsch could not be present because of illness

As the A.S.D.A. was having their big show at a nearby Armory the meeting opened promptly and unnecessary discussions were eliminated. A report on the Chicago Show was made by J. Stein and was supplemented by A. Kessler who attended the Chicago Exhibition. Our G. B. Kaplowitz who exhibited his Romania collection received a second award which was presented to him by Stein, to the applause of all present. We only hope it will stimulate other members to exhibit their stamps at future shows.

As Dr. Reiner-Deutsch could not be with us, L. M. Horechny showed his beautiful collection of items seldom seen.

Afterwards an exhibition of members' stamps in the Hall of the Collectors Club was discussed; this is to be held in the Spring.

L. M. Horechny who presided at this meeting closed it with best wishes to all for a pleasant holiday season. Our next meeting will be held January 18, 1957 at 7:30 p.m. at The Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St. at which Dr. W. Reiner-Deutsch will show his Hradcany issues and plans for our Spring Show will be promulgated.

NEW MEMBERS

(Not previously listed)

- 557 Gero Kragh, 115 Wapanoca Ave., Rye, N. Y.
- 558 Timothy Ryan, c/o Stuchell, 42-35 Judge St., Elmhurst 73, N. Y.
- 559 Paul Pekurney, 31-15 35th St., Astoria 6, L. I., N. Y.
- 575 Jerry V. Bobek, 3040 W. 54th St., Chicago 32, Ill.
- 576 Rev. Wm. Barta, Mount Angel Abbey, St. Benedict, Oregon
- 577 Chas. Kusy, 2309 So. Clinton Ave., Berwyn, Ill.
- 578 Henry T. Synek, 276 Gage Rd., Riverside, Ill.
- 579 Vladimir Bodlak, 1126 So. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, Ill.
- 580 Leo Eaton, 2444 So. 58th Ct., Cicero 50, Ill.

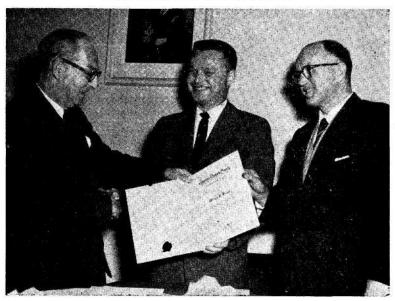
CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 211 Emil E. Zaludek, 5955 So. Richmond Ave., Chicago 29, Ill.
- 527 John Watson, 329 Olive St., Albury, N. S. W., Australia.

HELP!

The following members moved but failed to notify us of their change of address: Miss Marie Craig, Ray Walther and Alfred F. Chaloupka. If you know their present whereabouts your editor will appreciate your notice of new address. Thanks.

APS AWARD TO W. L. RUSSELL



Bill Russell, a member of this Society, resident in a suburb of Melbourne, Australia was honored by the American Philatelic Society at the October meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

Quite unknown to him, and kept secret from him by the Council members, he was the recipient of the APS Award of Honor for Philatelic Achievement, and was the first Victorian to be so honored.

The presentation was made by Dr. D. I. Drucker, Cultural Affairs Officer of the United States Consulate in Melbourne, before a large attendance of members.

The citation read: "The American Philatelic Society takes great pleasure in awarding you the International Award for Philatelic Achievement. Not only have you been an active member of your society for many years, but during those years you have been an inspiration to the hobby and a guiding light to younger collectors with whom you have shared unsparinigly of your philatelic knowledge and wisdom. For years you have been a Champion of Czechoslovak philately 'Down Under'; and you have served on numerous stamp exhibitions, as well as the Design Committee of your Post Office Department."

The award, a beautifully designed Certificate of Honor, in black, red and gold on cream, was signed by Laurence D. Shoemaker, President of the American Philatelic Society; H. Clay Musser, its executive Secretary; Fred N. Billingsley, International Secretary; and George H. Blizil, its Chairman of International Relations. It is countersigned by the President of the Royal Philatelic Society (Mr. P. T. Masters); Mr. J. R. W. Purves, Vice-President; and Mr. P. Collas, Past President. The certificate also records that it was presented on October 18, 1956, "Bill Russell" night at the Society.

Bill, who has been a member of the Royal for many years, and a member of its council since 1946, writes us as follows: "I attended the Council meeting, which preceded the October meeting, and although there was an almost complete muster of Councillors, nothing was said of the Award. Later, I was sitting next to the member who was giving that evening's display. When I saw a camera-man come in I asked him what the photographer was for. He

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gave me no answer (as he was in the know) and I concluded he was pondering his "talk". Later the President welcomed Dr. Drucker of the American Consulate. I wondered what he was there for, lecause the display of the evening was "France". Then, to my utter amazement, the President (Percy Masters) announced that I was to be the recipient of an American Award, and asked me to come forward. Then, Dr. Drucker, in a choicely worded speech, read the citation and made the presentation. I am conscious that my response was totally inadequate, but the shock almost robbed me of the power of speech, That I was highly delighted goes without saying. My CSR collection has won several medals, and I have also been recognized by the present Government of Czechoslovakia, but that the APS should award this distinction was beyond my dreams. Of course, the Award had to be sent around the meeting and I very much fear that 'Bill Russell' night took some of the glamour off the very fine showing of 'France' made by my friend Bill Holbeach."

The announcement of the distinction was enthusiastically received by the members of the Royal and the Award was much admired by all present.

Bill, who has been a member of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of North America since its very early days (his number on the roll is 42) has a large and highly specialized collection of the stamps of CSR. He stops his collection at the death of Dr. Beneš, but despite its comparative completion, there is always something to add and he seeks assiduously for it. He also collects the stamps of Egypt, Australia, Fiji, and New Guinea. Bill has been a member of the Advisory Committee to the Australian PMG's department since 1946.

The Hradcany Postal Forgeries

by John Velek

It has been known for many years that the 100, 200 and 300h stamps of the first issue were forged to defraud the postoffice. Actual copies of these forgeries are so scarce as to be almost legendary. While attending the Fipex Exhibition, I had the opportunity to examine copies of these forgeries and to have the way they differ from the genuine stamps pointed out to me.

This article is being written in hopes that owners of Hradcany stocks

will look for additional copies of these interesting forgeries.

There are no mint copies known. They were used only in the town of Vejprty. Any stamp with the Vejprty-Weipert cancel should be examined.

These are characteristics of all three values:

The originals were typographed.

The forgeries were lithographed.

The originals measure 26.5x22.6 mm.

The forgeries measure 25.5x21.8 mm.

These are characteristics of the 100 and 200h values:

The long ray is missing.

The sun is a solid line.

The bottom left spiral is not a true spiral.

There are two dots on the cupola of the church.

In addition, the 200h varies as follows:

The foot of the 2 touches the tablet line on the left and the 0 on the right.

Being a different design, the 300h forgery has different characteristics. They are:

The center tower touches the arch.

There is no accent mark after the A of CESKOSLOVENSKA.

I hope this information will uncover undiscovered copies in some members collection.

Parade Of New Issues

Commemorative Issue "Locomotives"



On the occasion of the European Timetable Conference for Freight Services taking place in Prague from 9th to 13th November 1956 the Ministry of Communications issued a set of six Commemorative postage stamps showing different types of locomotives in use in Czechoslovakia. The author of all the designs is František Hudeček, painter-artist.

The values, designs and colors of the stamps are as follows:

- 1. 10 hal., the locomotive "Zbraslac" from 1846, dark brown
- 2. 30 hal., the locomotive "Kladno" from 1855, black
- 3. 40 hal., the locomotive 534.0/1945, dark green
- 4. 45 hal., the locomotive 556.0/1952, dark red
- 5. 60 hal., the locomotive 477.0/1955, dark blue
- 6. 1 Kčs, the electric locomotive 499.0/1955, light blue

The engravings of the stamps are executed:

- 10 hal. value by Bohdan Roule
- 30 hal. value by Jiří Švengsbír
- 45 hal. and 60 hal. values by Jaroslav Goldschmied
- 40 hal. value by Jindra Schmidt
- 1 Kčs value by Bedřich Housa

The stamps are recess-printed by the Post Printing Office in Prague in sheets of 50 copies. Dimension of the stamp picture 41mm by 23 mm.

Validity for postage from 9th November 1956.

Two First Day covers were issued, the first showing a locomotive on its first drive on the line Břeclav-Přerov in 1841, the second the initial letters LIM of the International Institution.

The author of both the designs is František Hudeček, the engravings are by Bohdan Roule and Jaroslav Goldschmied.

	ADVERT	ISING RAT	ES	
	Sante e su di marane e e	insertion	5 insertions	10 insertions
Full page		6.00	5.50	5 .0 0
1/2 page		4.00	3.75	3.50
¼ page		2.50	2.25	2.15
	10% discour	it to memb	ers.	

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER from Jan. 1, 1956 to Dec. 31, 1956 RECEIPTS

RECEIPTS			
	1956		1955
Dues and donations (donations \$178.11)	\$807.11		\$762.08
Advertising (does not include last 4 months of 1956)	148.30		213.60
Society Circuits	85.75		66.70
Sale of Back Issues	30.80		10.00
Chicago Show	27.31		276.95
Sale of Tickets at FIPEX	39.20		
Profit on Albums at FIPEX	29.29		
Bound Specialists Sold	104.88		
Dictionaries Sold	105.38		
Sale of FIPEX pictures	12.00		
Deposits on Handbooks	20.00		
	e1 410 00	-	1 200 22
DISBURSEMENTS	\$1,410.02	Ф	1,329.33
Printing of Specialist	\$781.27		\$796.90
Expenses of the Editor, Treasurer and Secretary, inc			φ150.00
mailing of Specialist, addressograph plates, prin			
membership cards, cost of envelopes and cost of			
	187.75		015 01
banking and printing for FIPEX	187.79		215.81
Deficit on sale of Vocabulary (after 1956 sales			000 75
deficit is 103.37)			208.75
FIPEX, lounges and frames, etc. (140.00 was a	450.00		- 40.00
dep. in 1955)	150.00		140.00
Cost of Bond to the winner of 1955 Show drawing	75.00		
Binding of Specialists	272.00		
Dues to APS, Chicago Fed. of Stamp Clubs	8.00		
	\$1,474.02	-	31,361.46
RECAPITULATION	φ1,414.02	7	1,001.40
In bank and on hand, Dec. 31, 1955		\$380.49	
Receipts, 1956		1410.02	
Receipts, 1500		1410.02	
		\$1790.51	
D. I			
Disbursements, 1956	1	-1474.02	
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In bank and on hand, Dec. 31, 1956		\$316.49	
	Kobylka	, Treasur	er
RECAPITULATION OF FIP	Properties		
	Expenses		Income
Lounge and Frames	\$290.00		
Printing	33.75		
Donations for Fipex			165.00
Albums			29,29
Specialists			43.96
Dictionary			6.89
New Members gained—16			32.00
Tickets			89.20
Advertising			12.00
Pictures			12.00
	4000 75	: :	2010.05
The shore is incorporated in the weeply werest	\$323.75		\$340.25
The above is incorporated in the yearly report			

TENTH MAIL SALE

The suggested bids are MINIMUM bids

Lot	#	Suggested MINIMU	M bid
		Provisional issues:	19
1		10h and 20h Scout *	2.00
2		Complete set up to 10K BUDEJOVICE used	_ 5.00
3		18 labels from Sokol Congresses	2.75
4		36 Postcards from SOKOL Congresses some VERY RARE and very early dates, 1900, etc.	16.00
5		NARODNI POLITIKA, complete sheet of 30	4.00
8		26 Picture postcards, showing Czech towns with stamps	
		Masaryk Issues:	
26		1920. 125h, 500h, 1000h vf. set *	_ 1.00
28		Vertical watermark complete set * Scott 101A to 101D	80.00
29		same set used vf.	3.00
30		Scott #102 vf	
31		Scott #103 block of four vf.	
32		Scott á168 to 178 vf. *	
33		same used	
34		2K to 10K UPPER COUPONS *	2.00
38		1923 complete set vf. B33 to 36	1.00
39		same used	
40		CONGRESS Scott #B147 to 139 vf. set *	4.50
41		CONGRESS same set used	4.50
42		SLET Scott #B140 to 143 vf. set *	
43		SLET same set used	_ 4.50
		Posta 1919	
45		10K dark violet vf. * Scott #B21a, \$75.00	20.00
47		AIRMAIL SET compl. vf. * Scott B37 to 39, \$240.00	
48		Scott #90, 10K Parliament vf. * Scott 175.00	50.00
		Airmails	
49		Scott C1 to 3 superb set *	5.00
50		Scott C1 to 3 superb set *Scott C4 to 6 superb set *	10.00
51		1930 ALL the RARE perf all *	8.00
52		FIRST FLIGHT to New York 24 Kc on cover	
		Different Issues, in lots:	
64		GUTTER PAIRS, little entente, views compl. *	_ 4.00
65		MUSIC SHEETS, the 1 Kc and 2 Kc in folder vf.	35.00
67		N. Y. World's Fair sheets, set of 16 different	
68		COLLECTION of Czechoslovakia mostly used NICE	
69		COLLECTION of Czechoslovakia ONLY * vf on album pages	12.00
70		Bohemia Moravia first set on two covers	
79		2,800 stamps all USED, Scott cat. \$180.00	
80		20 complete sheets USED all different	- 6.00
1050738		THE WHOLE STATE STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	_ 0.00

All bids to reach us by Febr. 28, 1957

ALFONS STACH

P. O. Box 387

Lenox, Mass.

Page 26 February 1957

No. 1 of Czechoslovakia

SPECIALIZED

by Raymond Van Handel, Jr.

Reprinted with permission from Weekly Philatelic Gossip

On December 21, 1918, "No. 1" of Czechoslovakia—the 3 haleru was issued. In the 37 years that have passed since this historic day in Czech history, this admittedly inexpensive and somewhat drab stamp has been gaining great popularity as an item suitable for specialization in practically any field of philately.

A brief history behind the issuance of the 3 haleru shows that its production and issuance presented many problems to the newly born country of Czechoslovakia, which prior to gaining its freedom on October 28, 1918, had been under Austro-Hungarian rule for 300 years.

Realizing that postal issues were the ideal medium for spreading the gospel of freedom, the government commissioned Alfons Mucha, historian and artist to create a design symbolizing the birth of the new Republic. Hradcany Castle, home of the ancient Bohemian Kings, was chosen as the central theme and in a remarkably short time Mucha produced the working drawings for reproduction. The production of the plates and actual printing was done by the "Graphicka Unie," a large printing organization. Having no previous experience in producing stamps and having little time, inadequate machinery, lack of standard inks, gum and paper, it is understandable that the finished product left much to be desired.

No. 1 of Czechoslovakia was printed from flat bed presses in sheets of 400 stamps made up of four separate panes ten by ten. The positions of the upper panes were reversed to those of the bottom, so that the control numbers on the bottom of each sheet faced each other producing tete-beche gutters. Regular gutters do exist and are extremely rare. The original zinc plates produced by the photo-engraving process were electrotyped, and the actual printing was done from these brass or copper electros. It is reasonable to assume that two electrotypes were used, each bearing the characteristics and constant varieties of the originals and developing their own peculiarities through the crude methods used and ensuing plate damage.

Known as type one—the original engraving, the 3 haleru, printed in redviolet on wove paper, was issued on December 21, 1918. Because of the huge number printed and the limited usage, the 3 haleru is plentiful and even available in full sheets. Many feel that any issue produced in these proportions falls into the category of "junk." It is a revelation to the serious collector to learn that much of the 3 haleru material is scarce.

It should be remembered that October 28, 1918 was the date of legitimate franking under the regulations of the Czechoslovak government. From this date and even following the issuance of the first stamp on December 21, 1918, the Austrian and Hungarian stamps used previously in this territory continued to be valid as "provisional-issues." The letter rate at this time was 20 haleru for domestic and 25 haleru for foreign mail and the 3 haleru served solely for printed matter labeled "Drucksache." This is the only proper usage of the 3 haleru as a single franking! Consequently, we find the 3 haleru used to make up the "difference" and franked with varied combinations of provisionals and other later issues.

Some of the most interesting possibilities for study are the plate-varieties evident on every position, enabling collecting of only the major varieties or complete plating according to the findings of John Velek, advanced student in the Hradcany field, whose work has been published in the "A. P. S." Magazine and reprinted in the "Czechoslovak Specialist."

Proofing of the 3 haleru was done on white and buff paper in black. These are regarded as official trials. Color trials in red-violet on buff paper, although distinct impressions, are regarded as examples of "printer's waste." This brings us to an interesting phase of collecting in which the 3 haleru is known in combination with many other values in double, multiple, and quadruple impressions. To determine correct flowage and impression, test sheets were run through the presses. Laid aside, they were used over and over when other values were to be printed. A conglomoration of mixed impressions resulted, making these test sheets of "printer's waste" desirable collectors' oddities. Employees of the "Graphicka Unie," aware that proofs of all types were to be destroyed, defied the rulings and smuggled these favors into the hands of collectors. Some time later many of these sheets were officially released to organized philatelists. It is fair to assume that much of this material was "made to order."

In subsequent printings of the 3 haleru, the red-violet ink remained fairly consistent, and differences can be observed only in "value" of the color due to varying plate impression. The majority of the 3 haleru was printed on a smooth wove paper. In keeping with the inconsistencies of production, some coarse wove paper was used which proved unsuitable for the fine lines of Mucha's design. However, time was of the essence and production continued despite many noticeable printing flaws. In order to augment the inadequate supply, these varieties passed inspection and were sold.

Although issued imperforate, the 3 haleru is known in several private perforations.

Three official overprints were used on the 3 haleru value, the first being the word "VZOREC" in black denoting "specimen." As was the practice, these were distributed to officials.

In 1920, 470,000 copies were overprinted "S. O." (Silesia Orientalis) 1920, for use in the plebiscite area of Eastern Silesia. Although the plebiscite did not materialize, legitimate usage is known in the prescribed territory from February 13, 1920 to August 11, 1920 at 76 post offices. These items are very scarce and much sought by collectors. The remainders of this issue were made available at the Philatelic Agency in Prague until as late as April, 1928.

Varieties exist in the broken numerals and numbers as well as characters from different type fonts which were used. The actual overprinting was done from an electrotype made from the type set original.

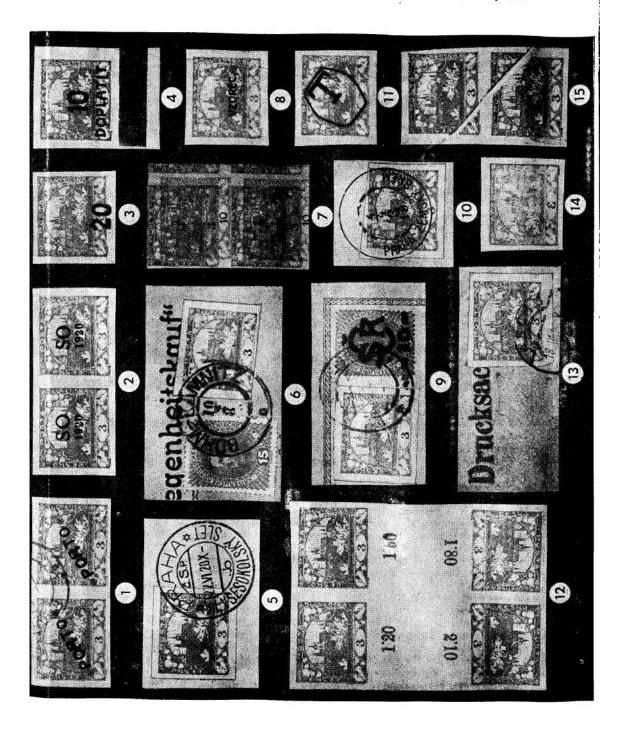
The third official overprinting occurred in 1922, for the purpose of providing "provisional postage-dues." The 3 haleru was overprinted "DOPLAT-IT" with the numeral of value below it. Four values 10, 20, 30 and 40 were printed in the deep violet. The 20 was also overprinted in blue.

Letter and numeral varieties exist similar to the S. O. overprints. The word "doplatit" is known missing on the 20 value.

The fourth (and unofficial) overprinting was the rubber stamping of copies with the word "PORTO" or the letter "T" to denote postage due. This practice, although not officially encouraged, was tolerated due to the shortages of postage-due stamps. Legitimately used covers bearing these stamps are scarce.

Cancellations on the 3 haleru show a wide variety ranging from the old Austrian single circle, Hungarian crown cancels, and German grids to the machine, commemorative, and "Nationalized" cancels. The latter are evidence of the fierce pride the patriotic postmasters had in their newly found independence. The "foreign" version of the town was either obliterated or cut from the canceling device leaving the Czech name.

This is but a single phase of the interesting field of postal history. Because of the events leading up to the creation of the Republic of Czechoslo-



vakia, its postal history is probably unparalleled. The opportunities to study the mixed franks, cancellations, and postal history in general have been greatly enhanced by the articles of Zdenek Kvasnicka of Prague, a recognized authority. These articles are currently being published in the "Czechoslovak Specialist," publication of the Czechoslovak Society of North America.

We, who have devoted years to the collecting of the 3 haleru, as well as the other values of the Hradcany issue, look forward to a lifetime of research and philatelic enjoyment with what are destined to be classics of the future.

Illustration

- 1. Provisional rubber stamped "PORTO."
- 2. S. O. plebiscite overprint ("narrow O" variety on right).
- 3. Provisional postage-due overprint variety. (Shifted numeral, word DO-PLATIT omitted.)
- 4. "Provisional postage-due" overprint. (Normal.)
- 5. Sokol Congress cancel.
- Mixed franking—No. 1 of Czechoslovakia and Austria No. 168.
 Printer's Waste—3 and 10 haleru (single impressions).
- "SPECIMEN" overprint.
- 9. Mixed franking-No. 1 on Czech overprinted and revalued Austrian post card.
- 10. "Nationalized Cancel" PRAG LANDTAG (German) eliminated.
- 11. Provisional rubber stamped "T."
- 12. Gutter tete-beche block.
- 13. Single franking "printed matter."
- 14. "Offset" on back.15. Paper crease variety.

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