

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

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Editor Frank J. Kovarik, 8748 Rockefeller Ave., Brookfield, Illinois

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EDITORIAL

We are well launched into 1958 and in a very short time will forget what transpired in the year we just dismissed. One thing our members must not forget is that if they failed to pay their dues for 1958, this is as good a time as any to correct the mistake. Your Society cannot operate without money, much as your editor would like it. We have so much fine material for publication, we are impatient to see it in print.

Every member received a plea for a loan to publish our first handbook. Our first attempt at publication was the dictionary of philatelic terms but this was not the success we expected. Several arguments were presented for its failure: those who know Czech think it unnecessary to spend \$3.50 or \$4.50 for a work they know by heart. Do they? By the same token, why a handbook? We see in the various catalogs what was issued. If we reason that way we even don't need the Society or the Specialist. Another lame reason presented was: The dictionary was published serially, so why spend additional money for something we already have? Up to the present writing 13 members outside of Chicago loaned \$250. Chicago upped its quota from \$600 to \$700. If you failed to loan up to the present, we hope you'll do so soon.

We mentioned previously our series of articles which we entitled "The Great Controversy." To date we received but one adverse comment and this writer hedged. We did receive many letters of commendation, especially our stand that this material is collectible. We refuse to accept the dictum of an individual or even a group of collectors, so-called experts, on what we should or should not collect. In U. S. we collect postmarks of Illinois and Michigan and all slogan cancellations. If we are the only collector doing so we should continue even if the rest of the fraternity insists we are crazy.

When we were invited to edit the Czechoslovak portion of Minkus' World Wide Catalog we were sorry so short a time was allowed us to do a thorough job. In our correspondence with several members we discussed what can be done for the 1959 catalog and incidentally mentioned some of the new catalog innovations. We are astonished that a run is made on the dealers' stocks of Czech Scout issue and Boh. Mor. Theresienstadt. We are sure all our members were aware of the existence of these stamps and that interested members own these items. There must be many collectors of Czechoslovakia who are not members of our Society but who could benefit by joining us. If you know any such lone wolves, why not invite them? In numbers is strength. The larger the Society the greater your personal benefit in membership.

Among the requests from old country collectors for exchanges are the

following: Jaroslav Novotný, Hradec Králové I, R. O. H. 574 and representative of a philatelic club, Rev. V. R. Bušek, Strakonice II/106, Czechoslovakia. We hope that from among these small ads members may be as lucky as your editor. We gained one correspondent who has sent us a fair collection of stampless covers with Czecho town cancels and another who has enriched our personal library of Czechoslovak literature by many copies, in fact, whole volumes and now promises to supply us with 60 old Czecho stamp catalogs which will more than triple our present library of these items.

NEW YORK AREA MEMBERS

Your group meets every third Friday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St., New York City. You will enjoy these meetings and learn much about the stamps of Czechoslovakia.

TREASURER'S NOTICE

Thru a misunderstanding your treasurer ran short of notices for 1958 dues which he ordinarily sends to members. He dislikes putting the treasury to additional expense so kindly requests all members who haven't yet paid their dues to do so without a special request. Remember, all money collected goes toward the Specialist; members who want special notices take away money sorely needed by the treasury. Please send your dues: \$10 patron members, \$5 associate members and \$2 regular members to the treasurer Geo. C. Kobyłka, 1433 Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill.

BRNO NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

A very well executed prospectus of 24 pages plus covers was received. This handsome and interesting brochure contains official invitations from the Minister of Communications, Dr. Alois Neuman, the president of the exhibition committee, prof. Theo. Martinec, president of the Federation of Czecho Philatelic Clubs Frant. Smolik and others. The Show will be housed in the Public Building, once the seat of the Poděbrad family, of which there is a short historical article. A short history of the exhibition city Brno as also of the Brno Posts adds much to the interest of Czecho philately. Collectors of the world are invited to show their collections in the following categories: 1. Czechoslovakia, 2. U. S. S. R. and Peoples' Republics, 3. Europe, 4. Other countries, 5. Philatelic sidelines (stampless covers, cancels, locals, etc.), 6. Topicals, 7. Junior collections—a. to 14 years of age and b. 14 to 18 years, 8. Philatelic publications and literature.

Members interested to show may ask for further information from Celo-státní Výstava Poštovních Známek, "BRNO 1958," Sekretariat Brno, Dvořákova 10, Czechoslovakia.

CLEVELAND GROUP MAY BE REVIVED

Members of the Cleveland group who would like to see their old group revived are requested to contact member Karel Zahradnick, 12704 Holborn Ave., Cleveland 5, Ohio.

NEW MEMBERS

- 603. Ing. Jan Karasek, Merhautova 154, Brno 2, Czechoslovakia.
- 604. Mrs. Margaret E. Cooper, 255 Hammond Ave., Waterloo, Iowa.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 451. Louis D. Kugelman, 409 W. Girard Ave., Kenmore, N. Y.

COMPEX 1958 AND YOUR SOCIETY

Some members of the Society are under the impression that the Chicago Group and not the entire body is vitally interested in Compex. We all recall our last independent exhibition. A tremendous success but almost a financial tragedy. Other stamp clubs in our area had the same experience and they reasoned there are too many stamp shows in the Chicagoland area. Eleven groups started what is now known as Compex (Combined Philatelic Exhibition) 1958; if this gigantic venture is a success it will be repeated in succeeding years. Of one thing we are certain: It can't be a fiasco if every participating organization does its best. The participants will join in the profits in proportion to the number of frames they show and the amount of advertising for the directory they bring in. Your Society was allotted 102 frames which must be subscribed if we want to break even. Our Society must raise enough non-philatelic advertising to show a profit.

There will be 30 bourse tables at this show, most of which, at this writing, had been sold. Publicity about it is appearing in the philatelic press of America and in the lay press of the Chicago area. Each participating organization will have a lounge table in the foyer where it can conduct its own publicizing. More detail will appear in the March issue of the Specialist. We urge every member to help.

Your Chicago group elected Jos. J. Jiranek to the office of Exhibition Chairman. In the next issue of the Specialist you will find a prospectus which exhibitors will be asked to fill out and mail to him by April 1. We have no limit on the number of frames you may show but we request only Czecho and related material so that the Czecho part of the Show would be prominent. Charge per frame will be \$1.00; frame dimensions are 24x36 inches inside and which can accommodate 6 large or 9 small album pages. We ask all members to participate; don't leave it entirely to the Chicago group.

The Program Chairman is George Havlik who solicits ads for the program which we choose to call "directory." Ads of any nature will be accepted. The cost will range from \$20 for a full page, to \$12 a half page, \$7.50 a quarter of a page and \$4 for an eighth. Members are requested to purchase this small ad space in which they may advertise their wants, as: "John Doe, address, is looking for stampless covers and Austrian stamps of the first issue. Buy, sell or exchange." We'd like to close the forms about April 1.

Your editor was chosen associate editor of philatelic articles which will appear in the Compex directory. At present we have two articles in the hopper and a third is expected. Members who want to try their hand at philatelic writing on Czecho material may do so and send their literary contribution to us. The sooner the better.

Our frames will be used in our Section and visitors will be in a position to compare them with the standard types used by other Societies.

It is the fervent wish of your Chicago Group that every member supports the efforts of Compex thus contributing to its success and assuring a profit to your Society. Several members expressed a wish to visit Chicago at that time; you'll be welcomed with open arms.

CHICAGO GROUP MEETING

This meeting was held Sunday Dec. 15, 1957 in the home of member F. J. Kovarik and the following were present: F. Zaviska, J. Janecka, R. Mitchell, F. Rosner, G. Kobylka, G. Havlik, Dr. J. Matejka, J. Jiranek, J. Velek, P. Kreischer. E. Berka and M. Skrivaneck sent their regrets.

The editor read a letter from our printer in which we are notified that it will be necessary to increase the rates for the printing of the Specialist. Just how much of a raise this may be is not known but we should hear definitely early in 1958. Some members present suggested a raise in the dues, others thought the Specialist could appear less frequently or curtailed in size. After much debate it was decided to wait until we have definite word from Mr. Miller and then we shall draft an amendment to the By Laws by either curtailing publication of the Specialist or increasing the dues. It will be up to the entire membership to decide and all must follow the mandate of the majority.

The next order of business was the handbook. As has been mentioned last month this book will be a specialized checklist of the stamps and postal stationery of Bohemia-Moravia and Slovakia. The editorial staff realizes it is sticking its neck out trying to put a point price on special items such as coupons, tabs, plate numbers, gutters, varieties, etc., because even this is flexible price-wise. We all know that before the advent of the Kobyłka albums this material could be had for little more than the cost of the material appearing in a regular catalog. But buyers of the albums soon depleted the existing stocks and as a result much of this has increased considerably in value. Most of the members present feel sure that stability has been reached and that the points as placed are about as near to present prices as possible. The point system may need explanation to the readers: If a stamp is catalogued by Scott or Minkus at 5 cents and the plate number shows 5 points, the value of the stamp goes up 5 times, that is 25 cents.

Another member was added to the editorial staff, R. L. Spofford. He will check the manuscript for grammatical errors and the rest of the editing committee thanks Dick for his acceptance of this task.

Illustrations were discussed again. If every stamp is illustrated it may take up much valuable space. It was decided that every type of stamp be illustrated and where one design was employed for more than one stamp it shall be up to member Van Handel which stamp would be best adaptable to represent all its kind.

Some members thought the handbook should contain a list of all post offices and possible postmarks. The meeting was held in Kovarik's library and he produced the Vacek handbook of postmarks appearing on the Hradčany issues. With this he tried to prove that such an addition could increase the size of the handbook about 80% and increase the cost of the finished product by about 100%. It was decided that such information would have to appear in a separate handbook or in the pages of the Specialist.

It was pointed out that a stock of handbooks requires much storage space. Member Kobyłka had handled the dictionary and the bound Specialists and he knows. Several members promised to accept cartons of books for storage in attics until such time as they are needed. It was also decided to purchase 200 or 300 envelopes for mailing the handbooks.

Financing the publication of the handbook was a subject that elicited much talk and wonderment. Of course, the Chicago group is enthusiastic about the project and one third of the necessary funds was immediately subscribed. Some of the members were making mental estimates how many \$100 loans could be received. The editor was given a list of members to contact for such loans but instead he requested and obtained permission to contact all members for whatever sum they can loan ranging from \$10 to \$100. Loans of higher denominations will be cheerfully accepted. (The editor guessed correctly; outside the Chicago group only one other member loaned \$100, with the \$10 loans the Chicago group may be in a position to place on the philatelic market its first, and let us hope not last, handbook.)

Member Kobyłka suggests that a stipulation be made that the printer

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gives to the Society the negatives prepared for the handbook.

The editor exhibited the presentation copies of the new Minkus' World Wide Postage Stamp Catalog—1958 edition. A cursory study was made and altho there are imperfections and errors it was generally agreed that this publication is a great improvement over Scott in many respects. A review of the Czecho sections appears elsewhere in this issue of the Specialist. At the invitation of the publisher our Society will suggest improvements, changes and corrections for the 1959 edition. Members willing to cooperate contact your editor.

The next two meetings will be held in the shop of member Janecka for a special reason. His storage space has been used to store back issues of the Specialist and due to several moves made, the material is in disarray. It is thought that if the usual 10 or 12 members who attend the meeting get into the work of it, all can be put in order and ready for the librarian's call. It will also give us an idea of what is yet on hand and what larger stocks can be utilized for promotional purposes. The May meeting will again be held at Janecka's but then in his home where he has stored the exhibition frames of his design and which had been used exclusively for the Society exhibitions. It is planned that the meeting will serve a double purpose; we shall mount the material for Compex so that we have the exhibits ready on opening date of the Show and hold our last pre-Compex meeting at the same time.

Next meetings of the Chicago Group will be held:

Sunday, Feb. 16, 2:30 PM, office of J. Janecka, 7306 Ogden Ave., Riverside.

Sunday, March 16, 2:30 PM, same as above.

Sunday, April 20, 2:30 PM, home of Dr. J. Matejka, 614 Elmwood, Oak Park.

Sunday, May 18, 2:30 PM, home of J. Janecka 2723 S. Central Park, Chicago.

FROM THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Fellow Members:

It is with great disappointment that I learned of the very poor showing in your voting on the Constitution. All of you had the opportunity to cast your votes in the past five weeks. This would have meant the effort of writing just a post card to show your sincere interest in your organization.

A society can be strong only if all the members help in its functioning. Your opinion is of great value to your officers and to your fellow members.

We, the appointed members of the Constitution Committee, worked hard to produce an effective Constitution in the hope that each member may benefit by it.

We, who have one specialty, wish our Society to grow to become one of the greatest specialty groups of the world.

Let us get together on it.

Fraternally, William Reiner-Deutsch

REVIEW OF THE WORLD WIDE CATALOG

Since the receipt of the Novotny catalog in 1949 we haven't seen a Czechoslovakian catalog which can compare with the various Czechoslovak Sections of the new World Wide Postage Stamp Catalog, Edition 1958 and published by Minkus Publications, Inc., 115 W. 30th St., New York 1, N. Y. Material of greatest interest to our members appears in Volume III which carries a list price of \$7.95. It has 1126 pages, is cloth bound and by employing abbreviations and small but easily read type (take it from one who has but one eye), reaches semi-specialized appearance and value such as can be found in no general catalog, anywhere.

The introduction carries about ¼ column of historical information about the country from the earliest times up to its absorption by Austria. The notation that with 'Defeat marked end of Bohemia independence, history of which henceforth followed Austria until 1918.' is not correct because internal political strife made Austria constantly aware that the Bohemian cannot be subdued by force. Your Society is given credit for cooperation with the publishers in aiding them to produce something far better and more complete than a general catalog. In the introduction they assure the collectors "the catalog is not a static thing" and just as they invited our cooperation in this their first venture, so they invite us to continue sending corrections, additions and even deletions. Deadline for 1959 changes is set as May 1, 1958 and members who feel confident they can help may do so by contacting editor Kovarik.

The listing commences with a mention of the 1918 provisionals and a reproduction of three of the overprints. It neither condones nor condemns these issues. Then under No. L1 and 2 are listed the Scout stamps with a notation of the existence of the stamps overprinted "Příjezd presidenta Masaryka" (this they have translated into English "President Masaryk's arrival"). Preceding the Hradčany stamps is a boxed notation "Stamps overprinted VZOREC are specimens." The imperforate first issue Hradčany is followed by a listing of the officially perforated stamps. Gutter pairs and tete-beche gutter pairs are listed and priced, for the first time giving a general collector an idea of the existence and value of these varieties. Fake perforations are mentioned as well as the fakes made to defraud the government (the famous Vejprty). Then comes the first big innovation; the Hradčany are followed by the Newspaper, Special Delivery and Postage Due stamps of 1918. This is an old European custom; only Czechoslovakia (we believe) followed Scott; the Novotny cat of 1949 separated Charity, Air Mail, Postage Due, etc., into their respective service categories. The second issue of the Hradčany is treated the same as the first.

The semi-postal stamps commemorating the first anniversary of independence are classified by perforations and priced. We are sure this is a step in the right direction as a beautiful collection of this once inexpensive material, mixture stamps, can be assembled. The Pošta Československá 1919 overprints follow with a complete listing of all the important stamps. We are especially pleased with the "table setting" of the 2K to 10K stamps, 1916 Austrian according to size and color and the green and black Postage Dues of Hungary according to watermark.

The type differences of the allegories are well illustrated; the tete-beche are separated below the regular listing "table style"; the Agriculture and Science show not only the perf varieties but all types and all are priced.

This is followed by the Air Mail series, overprints on the Hradčany, later the overprints on the Agriculture and Science. The first unfortunate error occurred here; the illustration of the overprint is that of a counterfeit. We shall oblige the editor-in-chief, Mr. Geo. Tlamsa, with a correct reproduction, in time for the 1959 edition of this catalog.

We are especially pleased with the listing of the watermark in its eight positions and the various printings, types and perms of the Masaryk issues. This is a creditable job but to the collector of engraved Masaryks the several interruptions of semi-postals, newspapers and dues may be annoying. It must be remembered that the various Masaryks cannot be properly listed by Scott or any other catalog publisher because there were three sets of semi-postals among them.

And so the listing goes chronologically on and on. There are many fine new features, one of which is pricing by sets. We didn't bother to test all these group pricings but what we did check showed no discount at set prices.

We are now ready to offer our adding machine for sale.

In the Bohemia-Moravia section appears a listing of the Theresienstadt stamp which was used on parcel post to inmates of the Theresien Concentration camp. This stamp was bound to appear in a catalog sooner or later. It is not a common stamp and used on cover is a rarity.

As we mentioned before, though the improvement is astonishing, there is room for more. We checked Bohemia-Moravia, Slovakia, Siberia, and Eastern Silesia and everywhere found great improvement over previous catalogs. Your Society, which is you, the member, shall cooperate fully with the publishers of the catalog to improve it more next year.

NOTICE

In accordance with Article VI of our Constitution I have appointed the following members to serve on the Nominating Committee for the purpose of selecting a slate of Candidates for office to be voted upon by the membership. The term of office for this election shall be from June 1, 1958 until December 31, 1959, or until replaced by their successors.

The Committee shall consist of: Lolly M. Horechny #34, chairman; Dr. William Reiner-Deutsch #27, member; Peter Kreischer #20, member; C. J. Pearce #17, member.

Said Committee is to proceed with dispatch to the completion of their report, which will be made directly to the Editor of the Specialist for publication in a regular issue of the Specialist.

—James W. Adler, President

CZECHOSLOVAK FIRST DAY COVERS

25 cents each—391-2, 493-4, 495-6, 499-500, 501-503, 504-6, 507-8, 512-3, 534-6, 537-9, 546-7, 548-551, 565-6, 567-8, 569-70, 579-80, 581, 665-6, 720, 756, 791-4, 796-7, Lidice, Phil. Exh., Lipsko, Bezruč, Televis, Záp., Oct. Rev., B168-9.

30 cents each—509-10, 512-3, 516-8, 521-2, 540-3, 548-51, 571-5, 576-8, 589-92, 685-7.

35 cents each—721-2, 744-6, 804-6.

40 cents each—663-4, 667-9, 670-2, 679-80, 727-30, 747-9.

50 cents each—786-787, 790, 791-4, 798-800, Tatra Park.

60 cents each—740-43.

80 cents each—750-55.

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Czecho. Suppl. No. 4, 1956		.55 15c
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Poland, Suppl. No. 1 1956	---	.55 15c
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4. II Prague issue complete up to 1K * -----	7.00
5. SROBAR 5 values * -----	4.00
6. FATHER JEHLICZKA 5K block of four IMPERF -----	3.00
7. FATHER JEHLICZKA 5K block of four PERF -----	3.00
8. FATHER JEHLICZKA 4 values (on Hungarian stamps) compl. set, very rare, signed LESETICKY -----	14.00
9. SCOUT 10h and 20h * -----	2.00
10. SCOUT used -----	2.00
11. 22 labels from old Sokol Congresses -----	3.00
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13. 25kop, 50kop, 1 Ruble complete set * -----	1.00
14. same in block of four signed -----	4.00
14a. the set perf 11½, scarce -----	4.00
15. LIONS: complete set signed (11 values) -----	12.00
16. 25kop BOTH types * -----	.50
17. 25kop interesting proof in other color -----	2.50
18. BEFORE 1918 Austrian stamps 36 different from 1850 up to 1918 with CZECH cancellations (used in Czech territory) -----	4.00
19. Austrian stamps on 41 covers and cards, with CZECH cancellations -----	6.00
20. 14 stampless covers with CZECH cancellations BEFORE 1850, like: Brno, Praha, LOKET, Budejovice, etc., very desirable lot -----	8.00
21. 33 Austrian postcards with Czech cancellations -----	3.00
22. 44 picture postcards showing Czech towns -----	4.00
23. 1918 emergency newspapers, * and ° -----	6.00
HRADCANY:	
24. 1h complete sheet USED with all plates and flaws -----	2.00
25. 3h complete sheet * with plates and flaws -----	3.00
26. 3h tete beche pair -----	2.00
27. 42 Hradcany waste prints -----	5.00
28. Legionnaire stamps, 46 better perf in blocks -----	5.00
29. waste prints, 14 diff. -----	1.50
30. POSTA 1919, 10 K light violet, superb -----	18.00
31. 10 K Hungary Parliament, vf -----	45.00
32. Airmails compl., superb -----	55.00
33. 10 K Porto, vf -----	18.00
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 1000 h all * -----	1.00
37. 125 h ultramarine both imperf and perf -----	4.00
38. 1923, complete issue (4) * -----	1.00
39. same used -----	1.00
40. 1925 Congress complete * -----	4.00
41. set complete * -----	4.00
42. 1925 1K vertical watermark * -----	22.00
43. 2K vertical watermark * -----	28.00
44. 3K vertical watermark * -----	2.00
45. 5K vertical watermark * and used -----	1.00
46. Complete set vertical watermarks used -----	3.00

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48.	DOVE and ALLEGORY, same unused	15.00
49.	AIRS, first set, superb *	5.00
50.	2h complete sheet of 100	2.00
51.	5h complete sheet of 100	2.00
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53.	POSTAGE DUES, emergencies 14 different, diff. overprints	3.00
54.	5h to 2000h complete set *	6.00
55.	400h ORANGE in color of 250h	3.00
56.	OVERPRINTS incl No. J28, set of 41 diff. all vf and *	11.00
57.	50h on 400h RARE error (instead of 60h on 400), signed "Gilbert" cat NET \$100	50.00
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60.	500h and 1000h MASARYK, vf Scott \$70	15.00
61.	Vf collection on album pages incl Masaryk & some better	21.00
62.	PLATE BLOX: vf nice lot of ALL BLOX of 4 with plates, 58 diff.	14.00
63.	Slovakia, plate blox, 26 different	7.00
64.	FAVOR SHEETS, sold in Praha on diff. occasions, collection 26 dif	12.00
65.	STAMPS WITH COUPONS, 28 some used and *	3.00
66.	6 different gutter pairs	3.00
67.	11 different miniature sheets	3.00
68.	Collection of 36 different N. Y. World's Fair sheets	28.00
69.	50h Benes autographed by the president EDUARD BENES, sold at the fair for \$15	8.00
70.	3 sheets used, actually on covers at the fair with U. S. stamps	3.00
71.	Czech fieldposts in England, two nice covers	2.00
72.	Czech fieldposts in England, four nice covers	4.00
73.	4 French stamps used, "ARMEE tschechoslovaque en FRANCE", very rare	10.00
74.	SUDETEN, 22 covers used during the Sudeten crisis	5.00
75.	20 different Sudeten stamps * and used	8.00
76.	Airmail set from 50h to 20K complete * overprint with the swastika (Sanabria \$500)	6.00
77.	Bohemia Moravia, cover collection consisting of 112 covers used during the occupation	12.00
78.	Specialized collection with sheets, covers, proofs, reprints, vf on album pages	26.00
79.	SECOND REPUBLIC Scott #307 to 309 VERTICAL GUTTERS *	7.00
80.	Same HORIZONTAL GUTTERS *	7.00
81.	THIRD REPUBLIC 202 different stamps, used, mostly picture stamps, also a sheet	7.50
82.	35 different first day covers	4.00
83.	Unused stamps, face value KC 345	6.00
84.	800 used stamps in sheets	6.00
85.	covers and Second Rep., total 220 covers (come commons)	5.00

The sooner we get the bids in the better we can take care of them.

Books close on February 28th, 1958

ALFONS STACH

P. O. Box 387

Lenox, Mass.

PARADE OF NEW ISSUES



Commemorative stamp to celebrate 90th Birthday of the Poet Peter Bezruč

On September 15, 1957, Peter Bezruč, one of the most outstanding Czech poets, will attain the age of ninety. To celebrate his anniversary the Czechoslovak Post Administration issued a single commemorative 60 hal. stamp after the design by professor Karel Svolinský, the motive of which personifies the heroine of the poem *Maryčka Magdonová* by Peter Bezruč. The engraving was executed by Jindra Schmidt.

The stamp has been printed at the Post Printing Office, Prague, in recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50 copies, vertical form, dimension of the stamp picture 23mm by 30mm. The color of the recess print is black, of the photogravure vermilion red.

Validity for postage from 15th September 1957 until further notice.

The design of the First Day cover is also by professor Svolinský, the engraving by Ladislav Jirka.



Commemorative Issue to the IV World Trade Union Congress

On the occasion of the IV World Trade Union Congress, held from 4th to 15th October 1957 at Leipzig, the Czechoslovak Postal Administration marked this important event by issuing a single commemorative postage stamp of the 75 h denomination.

The author of the stamp design is Viktor Polášek, painter artist, the engraving was executed by Jan Mráček. The color is red.

The stamp was recess printed by the Post Printing Office, Prague, in sheets of 50 copies, vertical form, dimension of the stamp picture 23x41 mm.

Validity for postage from 28th September, 1957, until further notice.

The design of the First Day cover is by Viktor Polášek, the engraving was executed by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

Commemorative Issue "Czechoslovak Television"

On October 19th, 1957, the Czechoslovak Postal Administration issued two



commemorative postage stamps, "Czechoslovak Television."

The denominations, designs and colors are the following:

40h, the transmitting television station in Prague, blue and red-violet

60h, a television reproduction, brown and green.

The design of both the stamps are by František Hudeček, painter-artist, the engravings are executed by Bedřich Housa.

Both the stamps were printed by the Post Printing Office in Prague by recess-print, combined with photogravure, in sheets of 50 copies. Vertical format, dimension of the stamp picture 23 by 30 mm.

Validity for postage from 19th October, 1957, until further notice.

At the same time a First Day cover designed by František Hudeček and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied was issued.



Commemorative "40th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution"

On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution the Czechoslovak Postal Administration issued on 7th November, 1957, two commemorative stamps of the 30 hal. and 60 hal. denominations.

The designs of both the stamps are by Václav Fiala, painter-artist, the engravings were executed by Jindra Schmidt.

The colors of the stamps are:

30 hal. value, red; 60 hal. value, blue.

Both the stamps were recess printed by the Post Printing Office, Prague, in sheets of 50 copies. Horizontal form, dimension of the stamp pictures 40 by 22 mm.

Validity for postage from 7th November, 1957, until further notice.

The design of the First Day cover is by Václav Fiala, the engraving by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

President Antonín Zápotocký Memorial Issue

To honor the memory of President Antonín Zápotocký the Czechoslovak Postal Administration issued on 18th November, 1957, two Memorial stamps and a Memorial sheet.

The denominations of the stamps are 30 hal. and 60 hal., of the sheet, 2.— Kčs.

All the stamps show the portrait of President Antonín Zápotocký bordered with a black line, designed and engraved by Jindra Schmidt.



On the stamps there is also the inscription "Antonín Zápotocký 19.12.1884-13.11.1957", on the memorial sheet the design of a laurel sprig.

At the same time the Postal Administration issued a Memorial cover designed by Jindra Schmidt, engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied, franked by the stamps but not the memorial sheet.

The collection sheets are adorned with both the stamps and the memorial sheet.

The stamps, the sheet and the Memorial cover were printed by the Post Printing Office, Prague, by recess print in sheets of 50 copies, dimension of the picture 23 by 30 mm. The sheet and the cover were printed by flat printing.

Validity of the stamp and of the sheet from 18th November, 1957, until further notice.

WORLD FAIR SHEETS

ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

Each 75c

1939—Black overprint on Bratislava, Praga or Newspaper Sheet.

1939—Canadian—Black overprint on Praga Sheet.

1940—On Praga Sheet—Black, green, red, blue or gold overprints.

All with folders. Limited Quantities.

B. J. MILLER

264 E. 180th St.

New York 57, N. Y.

STAMP MARKET TIPS By Leo Eaton
Reprinted with permission from STAMPS

CZECHOSLOVAKIA—Among the pre-war commemoratives the most outstanding ones are the Music Sheets, Scott Nos. 200a and 201a. For quite some time these souvenir sheets sold for much less than they are really worth and therefore I think the time to buy them is now. Here in the U.S.A. these sheets are selling around the \$65.00 mark for the pair. These sheets cost more in Europe, and it puzzles me that this beautiful philatelic item does not bring any more even at auctions. On the other hand, there are many who just simply cannot afford to spend such an amount, and to those I would suggest acquiring at least the singles out of the sheets, which are Scott's 200b-201b. In most cases they sell for about \$3.00 to \$3.50 the pair.

In buying the sheets or the singles out of the sheets, the collector should know more than the price tag of these items; he should know the story behind the stamps, which is very interesting:

On December 17, 1934, Czechoslovakia issued these most colorful and beautiful sheets. The artistically designed sheets commemorate the centennial of the composing of what later became the National Anthem of the Czechoslovak Republic. The title of the anthem "KDE DOMOV MUJ?" is translated "Where is my home?"

In the year 1834 the Czechoslovak people were still under the domination of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but it was during this period that a great many strong personages were busily laying the cornerstone of the extremely nationalistic feeling which created many stresses and strains in the Empire. Soon after the Empire "big-wigs" noted what strong effect it had upon the nationalist feeling of the Czechoslovak people, the playing of the anthem was officially banned.

To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of this very significant event the Czechoslovak Ministry of Posts strove to produce a very attractive and, most of all, symbolic sheet. Approximately eight thousand sets were issued, each in a special folder. A block of fifteen stamps appeared in the center of the sheet of a pastoral scene based upon a painting of J. Manes, a famous historical Czech painter. At the top of each sheet is the title KDE DOMOV MUJ? flanked by the two dates 1834-1934. Some words of the song are above the stamps and the remainder is continued below. The entire sheet is framed with a Linden leaf motif, the Czech national tree being the Linden.

Because of the beauty of the sheets, and probably because of its limited edition too, there was heavy purchasing of them in the U. S. A. among Czech immigrants. For this reason the sheets were selling for a higher price in Czechoslovakia than in the U.S.A., despite the fact that at that time money was scarcer there than here.

The large size of the sheet makes it a little difficult to handle and problematical to mount, so damage to them is a great possibility. An added hazard is the fact that the thick paper used for them is very soft in texture; and considering the wartime conditions that prevailed in Czechoslovakia, with invasions, occupations and re-occupations, it is little wonder that a heavy toll of damage appears to have taken place. I have seen many of these sheets in damaged condition.

Of course, since Communism took hold of the land, the sheet is not popular with the present government, since its symbolism has the effect of stirring nationalistic pride and memories.

Comparing its 8,000 edition and the many vicissitudes it has undergone, and the fact that the sheet is sought by collectors of souvenir sheets and topical collectors as well as collectors of Czech stamps, one can readily guess that this item has a future. The little surplus which is left in this country now will soon be absorbed.

We just bought a big stock of

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

and

Slovakia

and

Boh Moravia

and a VERY Specialized Collection
of these countries

WE FILL WANT LISTS

Alfons Stach

LENOX, MASS.