

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

A publication of the Czechoslovak  Philatelic Society of N. America

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## EDITORIAL

Have you paid your dues for 1963? It is indeed gratifying to learn that one third of the membership had paid its dues by the end of November. Maybe we will be able to report in our next issue that all members have paid up! In connection with this, we wish to bring to the attention of our members, that the books of the Treasurer will be audited sometime this month, to enable us to present a financial report to all of you in our March issue. A certified public accountant who is licensed to practice in New York State will audit the books. Since we feel very strongly that there should be no possible conflict of interest we will have a CPA who not only is not a member of our society but does not even know the Treasurer. This will be done at no cost to the society. Our financial status is very good. We will analyze it for you in the near future. Now suffice to say that our Treasurer was able to maintain a savings account for the year. This would indicate that within two years time we may have enough funds on hand to publish another Handbook without any concern about finance. Of course we will need volunteers to do the actual compilation of the book. We have the "brains" amongst us and let us hope there will be willingness also.

We mentioned that Mr. Blizil had received a silver-plated medal for his entry at Praga but neglected to say that he had also been awarded a silver plaque for his efforts in connection with the sending by the Postoffice Department of exhibition material to the show. Originally the Post Office Department had planned to send a Government exhibit there but after having been advised against it, it decided not to do so. Much later, upon the request of a number of philatelists and the efforts of George, who is Chairman of the International Relations Committee of the APS, there was a change of mind and the material was shipped by hand to Czechoslovakia. Here we wish to interject most emphatically, we must never consider politics when we wish to forward the interest of philately. Societies and governments may make mistakes; may have policies with which we cannot agree as individuals but there are so few links which can be utilized for better understanding—let us bear this in mind!!

Sales Manager Fritzsche has asked us to express his great appreciation for the prompt action of many members in supplying him with circuit books when his call went out to the membership.

We will be very brief in respect to the most discussed philatelic event in November. The Hammaraskold error and the subsequent strange action of the Postmaster General has been described in detail in Linn's and Stamps and other stamp publications.

The Bulletin of the Philatelic Library of Boston University has just reached us. In it we note severe criticism of the Christmas stamp. It suggests a "revolutionary action." "How about actually using those stamps as seals? Would our Post Office have a legal right to refuse to accept letters that are stamped on the back instead of the front?"

Does anyone have a spare copy of the June issue of 1957? Please contact Frank J. Kovarik, 8748 Rockefeller Ave., Brookfield, Ill.

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#### CHICAGO BRANCH NOVEMBER MEETING

The Chicago branch met, as usual, the second Sunday of November in the Lincoln Room of the Lincoln Federal Building in Berwyn. The conclave was well attended and in the course of the meeting it was explained that some sort of dues must be established to pay for the meeting announcements and some other expenses. As you know, there are about 50 members in the Chicago area; it was decided that only those members will receive notices of the meetings, who contribute one dollar. Everybody is welcome free but if you want to help, your contribution will be gladly accepted.

Our group will man a booth during a bazaar to be held on the premises of the Lincoln Federal Building during which we hope to advertise our Society and if possible will sell some of our literature. Member Janecka will show three frames of stamps and member Kobyłka will display his albums. If any of these are sold, the Branch will get a percentage of the sale.

After the short business meeting, member Kovarik spoke on the subject "Philately and what it meant in my Retirement." He gave a resumé of his stamp collecting life, from early childhood up to the present. Kovarik is a man of many interests; in his youth he directed amateur stage plays and acted in most of them; in both Czech and English. He not only studied Esperanto but taught it and even at present conducts a course in advanced Esperanto. Since his return from the Army after WWI he was interested in the Boy Scout movement and to this day is a Merit Badge examiner in three subjects, one of which is stamp collecting. In his talk he maintained that any hobby helps one who is retired but stamp collecting is especially helpful because it is a sedentary hobby and can be pursued by an individual, primarily an introvert. On the other hand, an extrovert can find many kindred souls and enjoy his hobby to the hilt. The speaker said that for more than thirty years his work robbed him of free evenings, he worked every other Saturday and every fourth Sunday and so was unable to attend many shows or meetings and meet people. Since his retirement he attended many philatelic gatherings and he found a new life among his fellow hobbyists. He maintains that stamp collecting has increased his circle of friends, for which he is very grateful.

The meetings of the branch are held every second Sunday of the month, September thru June, at 2:30 p.m., in the Lincoln Federal Loan and Savings Association Bldg., 6635 Cermak Road, Berwyn, Ill. Everybody welcome.

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#### THE CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAL MUSEUM REVISITED

by John Velek

When visiting the Czechoslovak Postal Museum in 1960 (Czechoslovak Specialist, Nov. 1960), I was so overwhelmed by the many philatelic treasures that I neglected to make any notes. Fascinating visits to Rome and Paris further erased many items from my memory and as a result the report mentioned above was rather incomplete.

While attending the Praga '62 exhibition I decided to visit the Museum again and to make some notes to enable me to make a more detailed report for our members. Our member Zdeněk Kvasnička again made an appointment with Mr. Husek, the curator to escort us around the museum. Evidence of Mr. Husek's hard work the past two years was all around us. Elaborate new displays were in the glass cabinets and the built in pull-out frames had been considerably expanded.

One of the first cabinets contained two original drawings by Mucha. These were sketches of the entire Hradčany design with additional details sketched along the sides. On one of these the value tablet was heart shaped but this design was finally used only as a side ornament. Another cabinet had a very interesting display that was first used for an exhibit which Mr. Husek believed was held about 1922. This was a display of the 1 h Hradčany in a block of 25 especially made up to illustrate the process of producing postage stamps. The display consisted of the following six items:

1. Glass negative.
2. Transfer to a copper plate.
3. First etching—edges opaqued out.
4. Final etching with routing showing on edges and between stamps.
5. Finished printing plate.
6. Black proof from plate.

Another cabinet was devoted to the "Pošta 1919" overprints and contained a single cliché about one inch cubed, a paper matrice of 24 positions used for the 2 to 10 crown Austrian stamps and a full sheet of 100 black proofs of the overprint. Further exhibits displayed the first engraved Masaryk rotary plates and die proofs of several other engraved issues including those by Seizinger and a transfer roll. I also noted the forgeries of the 200, 500 and 1000h Hradčany intended for the airmail overprints which were printed in blocks of eight.

While I was admiring these displays, Mr. Husek brought some material from the archives which he knew would be especially interesting to me. This included about 50 uncut sheets of 400 of the Hradčany issues. Some of the most interesting combinations on these were: 5h Type V with 120h; 40h olive with 60h green (for the Red Cross overprint); 60h with 3h set up se-tenant to each other; 5h Type I, all four plates; 30h Type V plus 15h dove issue and many others.

Another fascinating item was a set up of 100 2 inch black prints of the 25h Type V design. All positions except #1 and #30 had the 20h value pasted over the value tablet. Position #1 had been left the 25h value and on #30 the 20h value had peeled off. Control numbers for the 20h value were pasted at the bottom of the setup. This of course had been used in the making of the 20h plates. Mr. Husek also showed full sheets of the Hradčany stamps with Vzorec overprints both perf and imperf.

The high point of my visit was when Mr. Husek displayed the original Hradčany plates. The 5h Type I is in copper, the 25h in brass and the 120h in zinc. They are all very worn and the 5h is really battered with about 10 nail holes on each of the edges where it had been fastened to wood blocks for different printings. It also appeared to have been recut by hand from the appearance of the metal.

Mr. Husek said that all original drawings of modern stamps were also kept in the archives and it seems that the Czechoslovak Postoffice is doing an excellent job of preserving its postal history.

I am very much indebted to Mr. Kvasnička and Mr. Husek for taking me to the Postal Museum and for their courtesy in serving as guides.

## Essay and Proof Check List

OF THE HRADČANY CASTLE ISSUES OF 1918-20  
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society Hradčany Study Group

This detailed listing was made possible by the labor of the former secretary of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, Mr. Joseph J. Jiranek, who completed the initial draft of it and by the continuous, untiring, efforts of the present secretary, Mr. Frank J. Kosik. Without the valuable contributions of members John Velek, Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, C. J. Pearce, Ray Van Handel, Milo Barry and F. J. Auermuller, this article would not be so complete. In addition, credit is due to member Auermuller for putting the manuscript into its final shape and for typing it for publication.

In 1918 the Czechoslovak Republic was established. The Czechs, after 300 years of Austrian rule, and the Slovaks, after 1000 years of Hungarian rule, were again united under one government as they formerly had been in the eight hundreds under their own rulers of the Great Moravian Empire. Czechoslovakia, therefore, could be regarded as the fulfillment of an age-old dream.

Among the many problems which faced the nation was the issuance of its own adhesives, which up to then had been printed by the Austrian and Hungarian governments. The Czechoslovak postal authorities, realizing that stamps could be the perfect medium to spread the gospel of liberation to the world, did a very wise thing. They selected and commissioned Alfons Mucha, one of the foremost artists and a recognized authority on the history of the Czech nation, to design the first issues.

Unfortunately, the poor method used in printing the stamps, the inadequacy of the printing facilities, scarcity of good paper right after the war, and other shortcomings prevented the beauty and symbols which Mucha had striven to incorporate into his design from showing to better advantage.

To understand fully the symbolism of his designs it is absolutely necessary to know something of the history of the Czech nation. To the general collector, who is more or less interested in filling empty album spaces, history and the finer things are of minor importance. The serious student, however, will use all available data to make each individual page a collection in itself. The more serious and earnest he is, the better documented will his pages be as a source of joy and pride for himself and enlightenment to others. Neither will ever tire of turning over such album pages again and again.

In casually glancing at the stamps of the first issue we are just seeing what looks like a large complex of houses and towers known as the Hradčany Castle, seat of the powerful Bohemian kings of the Middle Ages; the view framed by various ornaments which seem to have been put there by the designer in order to fill up the spaces. However, these various ornaments have a distinctive meaning and are known and dear to every Czechoslovak citizen and student.

In order to obtain an explanation let us listen to an interview given by Alfons Mucha to the historian Jaroslav Orlicky a few months after the stamps had been issued.

Said Alfons Mucha:

"Now every nation has a palladium of its own embodying the past and future history. Ever since my boyhood I felt and saw in the architectural lines of the St. Vitus Cathedral, built close to the Hradčany Castle, a powerful interpretation of our national symbol. I could therefore not choose any other subject for my design than the Hradčany Castle and the surrounding architecture of the Middle Ages."

Pointing to one of the several sketches and designs on a table in front of

the two men, Mucha continued:

"Do you see the small leaves in the upper corners? These are Slavic symbols. We Czechs, Moravians, Silesians, Slovaks have survived centuries of oppression. The small budding leaves are the external expression of our ever blooming and awakening national life. The somewhat larger central leaf may be symbolic of Bohemia, being leaned upon by the smaller leaves, representing the four other provinces of our country.

"Notice the two little roosters (pigeon cocks) in the lower corners. They express and pronounce the coming of a new day, the hope for a glorious future of our nation.

"The small hearts grouped around the value oval are the expression of our love for peace among ourselves and toward other nations."

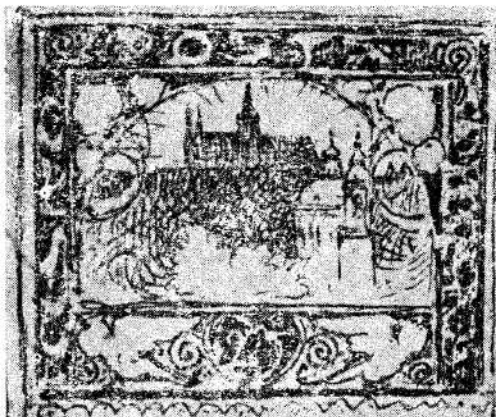
The central motif is the cathedral, in honor of St. Vitus, bishop of the Slav tribes which lived along the banks of the Elbe River centuries ago.

The contours of the cathedral of St. Vitus are primarily the detailed study of the main tower. This sketch was almost finished, but was not very much improved before the final incorporation into the design.

The cupola of St. Nicholas Church can be found in the finished design in the right foreground rising above the foliage.

Students of detail were fairly amazed when the set appeared, noticing a rising sun behind the cathedral. Though the rays of the sun are not noticeable very well in every instance, they can be seen clearly on items which show a stronger impression of the plate. The thing that baffled those who knew the geographic position of the design was that the sun was rising behind the cathedral instead of descending, since the scenery depicted the western part of the horizon. Mucha, wishing to symbolize the dawn of a new day for the Republic, simply made use of "artistic liberty" and placed the sun in the opposite horizon.

#### Official Hradčany Die Essays

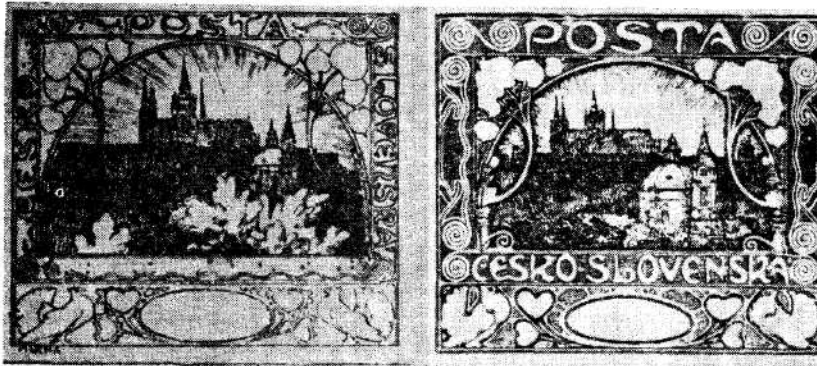


Mucha's rough trial sketch

The completed design very closely resembles the actually accepted Mucha design: The central theme is the St. Vitus Cathedral, with no sun visible. The word Pošta is at the top and Československá is in a panel below the scene. The value is in an oval in the lower center. Four hearts and two male pigeons flank the value. The stamps are known in the following colors:

5h black on thin white paper	imperforated
5h black on thin yellowish paper	imperforated
10h black on thin white paper	perforated 10½
10h red on thick yellow paper	perforated 10½





## Essays

20h black on thin white paper

imperforated

20h black on thin yellow paper

imperforated

Besides the above values that were prepared there were also trials in the following colors with no value numerals:

light olive green on thick white chalk paper

perforated 10½

red on white paper

imperforated

blue on yellow paper

imperforated

greenish blue on white paper

imperforated

blue gray on white paper

imperforated

(continued in next issue)

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

As provided for by Article IX of the Constitution of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, five members of the Council herewith propose the following Amendments to the Constitution:

Change par. 1, article IV "The President and the Vice Presidents shall be elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected for additional terms of office" to read "The President and the Vice Presidents shall be elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected for two additional terms of office."

Change par. 3, article IV "The councilors shall be elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected for additional terms of office" to read "The Councilors shall be elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected for two additional terms of office."

End

Article IX of the Constitution specifies that this proposal be published and that members shall vote on it. Send your votes to the National Secretary, Mr. Frank J. Kosik, Route 4, Box 286, Delavan, Wisc. These amendments will become part of the Constitution within thirty days after the receipt of this issue of the Specialist, unless a majority of the voting members disapproves.

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## 1920-1926 Allegorical Issues

by C. H. Osbourn

(continued from last issue)

Official Scott  
Czech No. No.

### FREE REPUBLIC 1920-1922

- 151 68 20 H RED  
2. — (Under 91st stamp)  
2. — — (As above)  
2. — — — (As above)  
2. — — — — (As above)
- 152 69 25 H LIGHT BROWN  
5. — — (Under 92nd stamp)  
5. — — — (As above)
- 153 70 30 H VIOLET  
Without marking and without protecting frame.  
Without marking and with protecting frame.  
15.— (Without decimal dot under 95th stamp)  
— (One gauge line before 91st stamp)  
== (Two gauge lines before 91st stamp)  
=== (Three gauge lines before 91st stamp)  
==== (Four gauge lines before 91st stamp)
- Serial Number and Date
- 1924
- 24 — 1  
24 — 2
- 154 71 40 H Red Brown — Type I  
4. — — a 40. — (With protecting frame)  
4. — — a 40. — (With protecting frame, comb perf)  
4. — — a 40. — (Without decimal dash in counter 40.)  
4. — — a 40. — (As above, line perf 13%)  
4. — — a 40. — (As above, comb perf)
- 154 71 40 H Red Brown — Type II  
Without marking and without protecting frame.  
Without marking and with protecting frame.  
Without marking, without counter, and with protective  
frame (tete beche print), line perf 13%  
4. — — (Without protective frame)  
4. — a 8., — (Without protecting frame)  
40. — — — (With protecting frame)  
40. — — — a = (Two gauge lines by 100th stamp, also  
protecting frame)  
40. — — — (Another drawing, protecting frame damaged)  
40. — — — a == (Three gauge lines by 100th stamp,  
same drawing, with protecting frame)  
— (One gauge line before 91st stamp)  
= (Two gauge lines before 81st stamp)
- 155 72 50 H Red  
5. — — (Without mark and without protecting frame)  
5. — — (As above)

## 156 87 50 H Yellow Green

- Without marking, and without protective frame.  
 Without marking, and with protective frame.  
 Without marking, without counter, and with protecting  
 frame (tete beche print), line perf 13%.
- 25 — (Without decimal dash under 95th stamp, margin  
 without protecting frame.)

NOTE: Total of 25—, without decimal point occurred sometimes also on  
 plate prints with serial numbers and dates. It does not represent a  
 plate mark.

10. — — (Under 92nd stamp)  
 50. — — (Under 100th stamp, before 91st stamp, two white  
 spots in protecting frame.)  
 || (Two gauge lines in left protecting frame)  
 ○ (White dot in protecting frame before 91st stamp)  
 : (Two white dots in protecting frame before 91st  
 stamp, and in counter 50.--decimal dash is cut)  
 NAKLAD (On horizontal colored frame under 91st and  
 92nd stamps, is partly cut off.)

NOTE: NAKLAD means published.

## Arabic Numbers in Protective Frame

- 3 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 4 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 5 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 6 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 7 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 8 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 9 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 10 (Behind 90th and 100th stamp)  
 01 (Before 91st and 100th stamp)  
 11 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 12 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 13 (In panel, before 91st and behind 100th stamp)

## Serial Number and Date

1	—	24
2	—	24
3	—	24
4	—	24
5	—	24
6	—	24
7	—	24
8	—	24
9	—	24
10	—	24
11	—	24
12	—	24
13	—	24
14	—	24
15	—	24

## 157 73 60 H Blue

- Without marking and protecting frames.  
 Without marking and with protecting frames.  
 Without marking and with protecting frames (Comb perf).



Without marking, without counters and with protecting frames (tete beche print), line perf 13¾.  
 6. — — (Under 91st stamp, without protecting frame)  
 6. —/— (Under 91st stamp, with protecting frame)  
 12. — — — (Under 92nd stamp, without protecting frame)

**Arabic Numbers in Protective Frame**

3 (Behind 80th stamp)  
 4 (Behind 100th stamp)  
 5 (As above)  
 6 (As above)

NOTE: Marks 3 and 4 are in panel.

**Serial Number and Date**

1	—	24
2	—	24
3	—	24
4	—	24

158 88 **100 H Dark Brown**

Without marking, without protecting frames.

Without marking, with protecting frames.

— (One gauge line in protecting frame before 91st st.)

— (One gauge line in protecting frame before 100th st.)

== (Two gauge lines in protecting frame behind 91st st.)

=== (Three gauge lines in protecting frame by 100th st.)

=== (As above, line perf 13¾)

=== Type I (protective frame, same drawing as on plate without marking, four gauge lines in protecting frame by 100th stamp, from second 0 in 100, drawn in an upper direction.)

=== Type II (Four gauge lines is drawn in from second 0 of 100 in downward direction)

NAKLAD (same drawing on protecting frames as on plate without marking, writing on horizontal colored frame under 91st and 92nd stamps.)

NAKLAD (As above, line perf 13¾)

**Arabic Numbers in Protective Frame**

5 (Right protecting frame)

5 (As above, line perf 13¾)

6 (Right protecting frame)

6 (As above, line perf 13¾)

7 (Left protecting frame)

7 (As above, line perf 13¾)

8 (Left protecting frame)

9 (Right protecting frame)

10 (As above)

159 89 **150 H Red**

— (By 100th stamp)

= (As above)

= (As above, line perf 13¾)

161 91 **250 H Black Green**

25. — (Under 91st stamp without marking)

25. — — (As above, decimal dash is cut)

## HUSSITE 1920

168 74 80 H Violet

- Without marking  
 1 (Under counter 80.-)  
 2 (As above)  
 3 (As above)  
 4 (As above)

163 75 90 H Black

- 1 (Under decimal dash counter 90.-)  
 2 (As above)  
 3 (As above, known only on imperf stamps)  
 4 (As above)

SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE 1923  
(Re-engraved Issue)

Plate Mark (arabic figures) are commonly used before the 51st and 60th stamps, in Type II and Type III; 100 H and 200 H, and 300 H in Type III. On Type I this stamp is without plate mark. Type III, 100 H has double drawing plate numbers.

173 92 100 H Red

Type II, numbers at left

- 1  
 2  
 3  
 4

Type II, numbers at right

- 1  
 2  
 3  
 4

Type III, numbers at left

- 1 (numeral smaller)  
 1 (large numeral)  
 2 (as above)  
 2 (different numeral)  
 3  
 4 (small numeral)  
 4 (large numeral)

Type III, numbers at right

- 1  
 2  
 3 (Over inscription value)  
 3 (Under inscription value)  
 4

174 93 200 H Blue

Type II, numbers at left

- 1  
 2

Type II, numbers at right

- 3  
 4

Type III, numbers at left

- 1  
 2

Type III, numbers at right

- 3  
 4

175 94 300 H Violet

Type III, numbers at left

- 1  
 2

Type III, numbers at right

- 3  
 4

The End

## Parade Of New Issues

Edited by Frank Kosik

### Social Facilities on New Czechoslovak Stamps



The Czechoslovak Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications issued on October 29, 1962, two commemoratives of the following denominations, colors and designs:

- a) 30h Three playing children, in background a factory. The text on the stamp reads: "Factory day nurseries and nursery schools are great benefit for working mothers." Colors: black and blue.
- b) 60h Trade Unions sanatorium at Žinkovy, a sailing boat in foreground. The text reads: "Trade Unions Sanatorium at Žinkovy offers complete relaxation." Colors: yellow and brown.

Both stamps were printed in the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. Dimensions of the stamp picture are 23x41 mm.

The stamps were designed by the academic artist Ruda Šváb, and engraved by J. Mráček. One First Day Cover was issued with this emission, designed by R. Šváb and engraved by J. Goldschmied.

The set is valid in internal as well as international postal use from October 29, 1962, until further notice.



The Czechoslovak Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications released

on November 7, 1962, a set of 4 stamps honoring 45th Anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution and 40th Anniversary of foundation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

1. 30 h black and blue
2. 60 h black and red

Both stamps depict the Soviet ship "Aurora" who—opening up fire in 1917—gave the first signal for the start of the Socialist October Revolution. The inscription on the stamps reads: "45th Anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution."

Designed by J. Šalamoun, academic artist. Engraved by B. Housa.

The First Day Cover was designed also by J. Šalamoun and engraved by J. Goldschmied.

3. 30 h a worker and a cosmonaut.

Designed by V. Polášek. Engraved by L. Jírka. Colors, blue and red.

4. 60 h V. I. Lenin

According to a photograph, engraved by J. Schmidt. Both stamps have the following inscription: "40th Anniversary of Foundation of USSR." Colors, black and red.

The First Day Cover was designed by J. Chovan and engraved by J. Goldschmied. All stamps were printed in the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. Dimensions of the stamp picture are 23x30 mm. The stamps are valid in internal and international postal use from Nov. 7, 1962 until further notice.

#### NEW YORK BRANCH NOVEMBER MEETING

No meeting was held in November because we were mounting our exhibit material at the Collectors Club on November 16th for our Show the next day. This annual show is strictly a philatelic event without the involvement of money. As a study group at the Collectors Club, we may ask that the frames in the large meeting room where we always hold our meetings, made available for our use on a given day. This time our show coincided with that of the ASDA and therefore we had many more in attendance than in the past. Member Kessler had arranged for two posters to publicize our show at the ASDA show. One was in the booth of member Miller and the other in the booth of Mr. Serebrakian. We had over thirty visitors and we secured one new member. This exhibition is non-competitive and members pay only for postage in connection with the mailing of invitations and program.

#### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

77 J. Leo Chapman, 321 Greymon Drive, West Palm Beach, Florida.  
 227 Frank J. Rosner, 3727 4th Ave. North, St. Petersburg 13, Fla.  
 443 Frank Steiner, 1340½ N. Harper Ave., Los Angeles 46, Calif.  
 600 Norman Tagg, 4052 Bay Park Drive, Liverpool, N. Y.

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John Velek

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## A Stamp Essay That Became Two Postal Cards

By John Velek

Reprinted from the Essay-Proof Journal, quarterly publication of the Essay-Proof Society, 1236 Grand Concourse, New York 56, N. Y.



Figure 1

When the first issue of Czechoslovakia (The Hradčany) had been in use only about two months, criticism of the original design caused several revisions. The first Hradčany stamp had been issued on December 18, 1918, but the 50 heller stamp issued on February 27, 1919, already had a considerably revised design. As additional values were issued, Alfons Mucha was prevailed upon to revise the design two more times.

When the final design known as Type V was being prepared, it was drawn

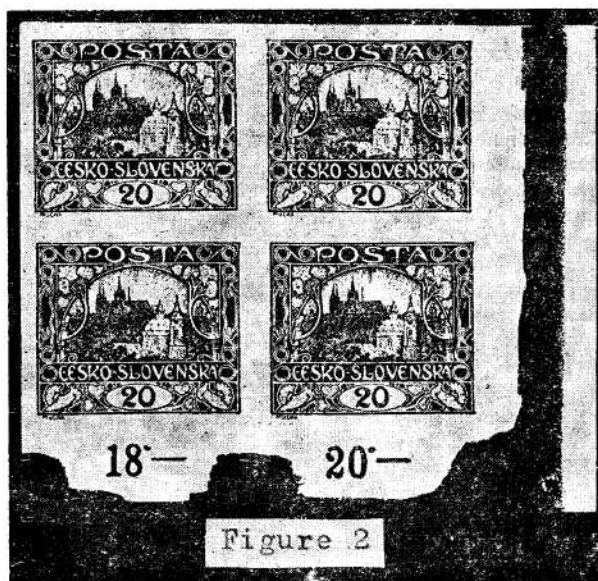
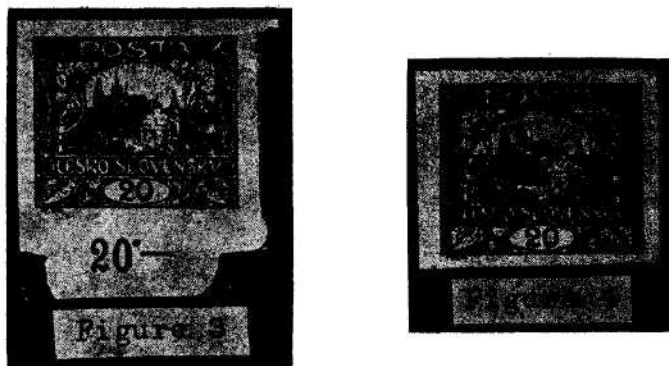


Figure 2



up as the second 25 heller value. Figure 1 shows the double stamp size (linear measurement) print of which 100 were made to compose the sheet set-up. Before it was photographed to be made into a plate by the photo-chemical process used, the 100 value tablets were pasted over with the 20 heller value. Figures 2 and 3 show that two plates of this design were made up. Both illustrations show stamp number 100 in the plate and minor differences reveal that they were two distinct plates. For some unknown reason they were never destined to go to press and remained stamp essays. Figure 4 shows a proof of the 20 heller stamp as it was finally issued. The stamp differs from the essay on the following points:

1. The inscription "Česko Slovenská" is slightly thinner and appears to be spread out more on the stamp.
2. The O of SLOVENSKÁ leans to the left on the essay but is erect on the stamp.
3. The shading on the doves and hearts of the essay consists of dots and short lines while on the stamp it is made of long thin lines.
4. On the essay the thin spire of the church is damaged on the right side.

Surprisingly, the rejected design came to life as two postal cards. The first, an unusually interesting card, was issued in 1919 to help individuals suffering from the results of World War I to contact friends in the United States for aid. The inscription on the left side of the card reads:

"Notice. This card is issued by the Prague Branch (7 Mikulašska, Prague) of the American Relief Administration operating under Act of Congress of Feb. 24, 1919. Its purpose as officially authorized, is to allow individuals in Czechoslovakia to communicate with individuals in the U. S. The U. S. banks whose clients desire to send personal remittances to Czechoslovak individuals can obtain full information from The American Relief Administration for Czechoslovakia, 115 Broadway, New York City."

This card came out in three varieties of inscription:

Czech-English

Slovak-English

Czech-English-German (Figure 5).

The rejected stamp design was used on the second postal card in 1920 (Fig. 6) when a foreign postal card was issued in a 20 heller denomination. This card was inscribed in Czech and French, the Universal Postal Union language.

Again, curiously when the domestic postal card rate was raised to 20 hellers later in 1920, the card with the 20 heller Hradčany design was the Type V of the 20 heller stamp!

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Data on membership in the Essay-Proof Society may be obtained from the Secretary, Kenneth Minuse, 1236 Grand Concourse, New York 58, N. Y.



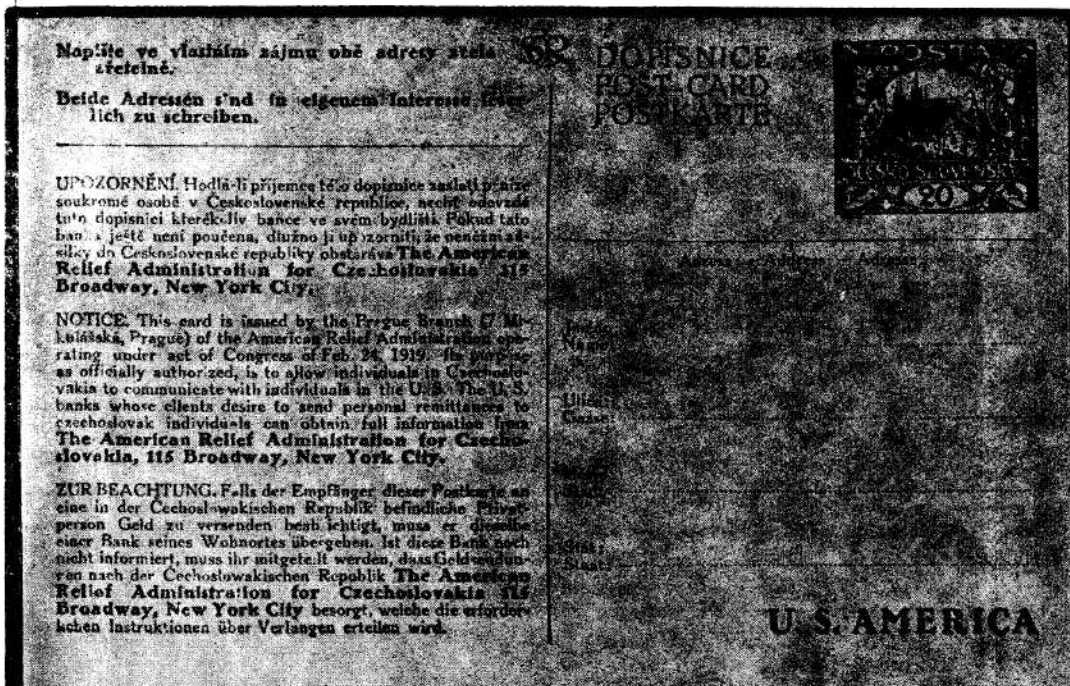


Figure 5

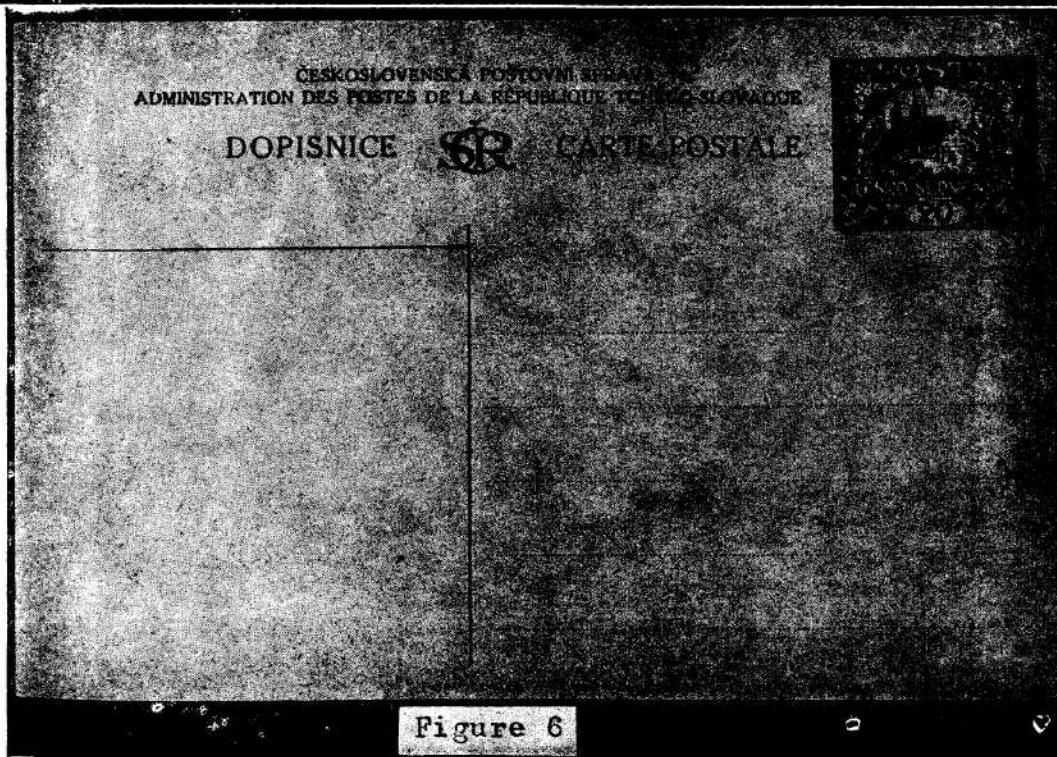


Figure 6

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