

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

A publication of the Czechoslovak  Philatelic Society of N. America

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Vol. XXV

February 1963

No. 230

EDITORIAL

We hope all members are taking care of their dues to the Society. We are trying to do our best for you so please send your dues to the Treasurer at once. We wish to tell you that a number of members sent four dollars, when mailing their dues to the Treasurer, representing three dollars for 1963 and one dollar they had not paid in 1962. Also, some members have become Patron Members. Our appreciation goes to all.

We have just received our advance copy of the January issue of the Specialist. It may sound very unusual to you readers but we think we started off this year with a very fine issue. Our printer has done a fine job again.

This issue contains a report from the Chicago Branch December Meeting. We are pleased to note that the Branch as such intends to participate in Compex 1963. We cannot imagine that plans are being made for National Society participation since these decisions were being reached at the Chicago Branch meeting. Our Society is governed by a Council. All organizations have a Council, a Board of Directors or Board of Governors, etc. In our Constitution, a Council is provided for. We have mentioned before that due to lack of interest as also stated by our esteemed friend, John Velek, in his report in the September issue, we really do not believe that our Society should participate. In the report of the Chicago Branch in this issue you may note that "Only a very few members outside of the Chicagoland area have ever attended a Compex Show." In addition we wish to mention one more fact, that of thirteen participating organizations only the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society was nationally involved at the last Compex Show. There were seven Chicago organizations and five Chicago Chapters of National organizations. If we handle our income in a careful fashion, we shall be able to give our members a good Specialist and the services we have been giving all along. This includes a library, a librarian willing to answer letters and to give a helping hand, a sales circuit run by a Sales Manager of nearly twenty-five years' standing and occasionally another publication.

We feel that the members are entitled to know all the true facts. We shall therefore give you an account of the expenditures and receipts of Compex 1962.

As you know, all participating organizations must pay \$2.00 per frame to Compex in advance. Mr. Janecka, the owner of the frames used by the Czechoslovak section, charges one dollar per frame rental. He donated the cost of shipping there and back the frames, amounting to \$45.00 (50 cents per frame), by not charging for this. Printing of entry forms, postage, awards and hotel room during Compex amounted to \$73.94. The final total of the expenditures

was \$343.94. The income from frames (only 40 of the 90 available), insurance and ads was \$116.25 and when all the calculations were made, Compex sent us a check in the amount of \$368.53. This means an additional income for our Treasury of \$140.84. Compex as such was quite successful and the expenditures of the Czechoslovak Section were kept down. If we look at the figures of last year we find that expenditures were \$632.16 and receipts were \$653.84. A very narrow margin, indeed. However, in the previous years the balance had been as high as in 1962 or even higher. Finally, we wish to emphasize that with the Branch participating this will not exclude the possible request of the Branch for entries from other members of the Society. This is being done all over the United States. Compex is a Chicagoland affair just as Sepad is held in Philadelphia, Sojex in Atlantic City or Nojex in Newark, to mention a few. At the three Shows mentioned, National organizations frequently participate as guests without any financial obligation. Usually the guests must guarantee to fill a certain number of frames. Moreover, one of the Delegates to Compex has suggested that the Chicago Branch may even donate some percentage of its income, if any, to the National Society Treasury. Your Editor has been supporting Compex since its inception and will continue to do so if an entry is requested.

Now that we are in the throes of presenting true facts to you, may we tell you that your Treasurer and your Editor not only gave their services free of charge to the Society but they have also donated all their personal expenses to it. The Treasurer did not charge the Society with the postage in connection with his mailing out of all those bills to slow-paying members as well as all other postage for his correspondence. Your Editor did not charge for his stationery, nor for all the postage foreign or domestic as well as the expensive mailing of insured packages with cuts and the certified mailing of all manuscripts. We are able and happy to do this and we ask in return only your support of the Society along with paying your dues promptly, increasing your annual payment, if possible; contributing articles to the Specialist and please try to get ads to increase our income the logical way.

The suggestion has been advanced by our President that members should meet at the gathering of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada on May 16-18, 1963, at Niagara Falls, Ontario. Unfortunately this notice was received by us on December 20th 1962, too late to go into the January issue of the Specialist. We received the invitation of the Canadian organization, addressed to us as President of the Postal History Society, early in October 1962. The latter society will not participate as a group. So far in recent years the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society has had a few haphazard meetings during the exhibition and convention of the American Philatelic Congress, at different locations. Last year no one suggested that we meet in Baltimore where the APC had its convention, though, frankly speaking, a few of us planned to go there. This year the APC will meet in St. Louis. The travel to Niagara Falls for the purpose of a meeting only, without any exhibition, seems to us quite unmanageable. We have already inquired and found no interest in it.

Our organization is large enough for the planning of meetings every two years preferably with the APC where a proper quorum could actually transact some business. The meetings we attended in the recent past consisted of 5-6 members, which is too small for any particular value. We must have at least 15 members for a quorum. There is no specification in regard to this in our Constitution. We could get together enough information for the planning, 9-12 months ahead, of a convention which would have meaning. We think that would be fine and of great value to Czechoslovak philately. This means that some people would have to work on the problem. We know that help of such people could be secured in Chicago, New York, Cleveland and in other cities.

If some members were interested to go to Niagara Falls please contact the President at LaSalle Hotel, Chicago 2, Ill.

This time we are publishing an important list of prices realized at an auction of Mercury Stamp Company held early in December. This most assuredly is very valuable information.

CHICAGO BRANCH DECEMBER MEETING

A small group of members attended our meeting in the afternoon but most were present in the early evening at the wedding reception of our vice-president and his bride at the Moravian Club. We should have called the meeting then. Member Joseph J. Janecka was married in Philadelphia Saturday, Dec. 1, to Miss Erma Frostrednik and as many of their relatives and friends live in the Chicago area a reception was held for them in Chicago on Dec. 9. We wish the newlyweds the best of health in their new state and hope we haven't lost an active member but gained one with much understanding for our cause. At least, Mrs. Janecka assured your scribe that nothing will change.

Compex 1962 was successful as the membership will learn from the report submitted by the treasurer. Joseph J. Janecka and Frank J. Kovarik were again elected delegate and alternate for the 1963 Compex. At the final meeting of Compex 62 Kovarik was named to the nominating committee to draw a slate of the 1963 officers. It is the opinion of your representatives to Compex to reduce the number of frames (on the basis of which a participating organization profits or loses) because, especially in the last year, active participation was very meagre. Not many members subscribed to the 90 apportioned frames and active work during Compex by the Chicago group was limited to just a small number of members. Work at the Show is proportioned to the number of frames a member organization is allowed. We were the third largest participant but due to insufficient cooperation we must be satisfied with just a minor part and hence, less profit, in the next show. Only a very few members outside the Chicagoland area ever attended a Compex Show. While strictly a local enterprise, in scope it surpasses most national exhibitions. If we were less modest we could safely say, all national shows. When we ask for a donation of duplicates, certainly you have some; stuff we know we couldn't sell we'll donate during Compex. Recently we obtained a booth at a local bazaar to advertise our Society where we distributed old Specialists, application blanks and donated used Czech stamps. While this venture may not have brought immediate results, it planted a seed of knowledge of our Society. At any rate, we'll know what to do next year.

POSTAL STATIONERY COLUMN

Wolfgang Fritzsche

New Issues: In our November issue we reported a set of postal cards for the Praga exhibition. The cards have arrived: set of 8 cards, cream paper, red inscriptions, imprinted stamp red on white, design exactly like the 1.40 Kčs stamp of the Praga set as illustrated on page 118 in the October issue of our Specialist. The stamp imprinted on the card is for 30 h. Headline on cards in 2 lines, Czech and German, Slovak and German, Czech and French, Slovak and French, Czech and English, Slovak and English and finally Czech and Russian and Slovak and Russian. There is a vertical dividing line and a horizontal line for address. The back of each card has a full size picture in sepia with red titles showing: (Same order as listed by languages above) Prague letter carrier 1786; old mail coach; mail arriving in Karlovy Vary in 1850; old type mail coach; Prague letter carrier 1841; postal stage coach 1820; mail carts before Prague; Post office in Znaim 1848.

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION
Mercury Stamp Co. — Dec. 6, 1962

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

☒	Mi.#1(2): Scout Post 1918, 10h, two singles, tied by oval canc. to cover which incl. original letter, vf -----	32.00
★	2 var. (2), 3 var. (2) (Mi. 2KZ, 3KZ): 1918, 5, 10h vert. tete beche gutter pairs, vf -----	17.00
★	3 (2) vars. (Mi 3SZ): 1918, 10h, vert. gutter pair, slight crease in gutter margin as usual, vf -----	22.50
★	4 var. (2) (Mi. 4KZ): 1918, 20h, vert. tete beche gutter pair, vf -----	21.00
★	5 var. (Mi. 5KZ): 1918, 25h, vert. tete beche gutter pair, vf -----	32.50
★	43 (4) (Mi. 25B): 1919, 10h, comb perf. 11¾, block of 4, vf -----	11.00
★	45a (Mi. 27): 1919, 20h imperf, vf -----	14.00
★	45a: 1919, 20h rose imperf. deeper shade, vf -----	15.00
★	47a (Mi. 29a): 1919, 30h lilac imperf, vf -----	14.00
★	57a (Mi. 29b): 1919, 30h dark violet imperf. vf -----	15.00
★	47a (Mi. 29b): 1919 30h dark violet, deeper shade, imperf. vf -----	16.00
★	50 (4) (Mi. 20D): 1919, 60h, comb perf 13¾x13½, block of 4, vf -----	12.00
★	Betw. 1-53: 1918, Hradcany, 3-1000h, 97 stamps, incl. shades & perf vars., also one tete beche gutter pair, on album pages, vf -----	17.00
★	61, 61a vars. (Mi. 161aU, 161bU): 1920, Masaryk, 125h imperf, both shades, vf -----	27.50
★	62, 63 vars. (Mi. 159U, 160U): 1920, Masaryk, 500, 1000h imperf. vf -----	15.00
★S	65-73, 82-85, 88, 90, 91 vars.: 1920, 5-250h, 21 imperfs, compr. the compl. set of 16 diff values and 4 shades or types, vf -----	25.00
★	66-68, 72, 76, 77, 80, 84, 85, 88 vars.: 1920, 10-500h imperf, 10 diff. f-vf -----	12.00
★	71a, 73a, 82a-84a (Mi. 163K-173K, 176K): 1920, 5-60h, five tete beche pairs, vf -----	6.50
★	71a var. 73a var, 82a var. 83a var. (Mi. 163KZ, 165KZ, 173KZ, 176KZ) 1920, 5, 10, 40, 60h, tete beche gutter pairs, f-vf -----	7.00
★	71a(2), 73a(2), 82a(2), 83(2) vars. plus 5 (Mi. 163K plus KZ, 165K plus KZ, 173K plus KZ, 176K plus KZ): 1920, 5, 10, 40, 60h tete beche and tete beche gutter pairs, each in compl. strips with sheet margins and five singles, f-vf -----	14.00
★	72var.: 1920, 50h, var. without head, vf; very rare, only a few exist	100.00
★S	76-81 vars.: 1920, 100-600h imperf. compl. set of 6, vf -----	19.00
★S	76-81 var.(2): 1920, 100-600h, imperf pairs, compl. set of 6, vf -----	37.50
★	Bet. 76-104: 1920-25, 24 stamps, incl. shades, etc. f-vf -----	12.00
PR	78P, 79P: 1920, 300h green, 400h violet, Color Proofs, vf -----	8.00
★	79(4): 1920, 400h, block of 4 with freakish centering -----	11.00
★	80 var. (Mi. 187B): 1920, 500h, comb. perf. 13¾x13½, BL corner, scarce, vf -----	16.00
★	81 var. (Mi. 188B): 1920, 600h, comb perf 13¾x13½, vf and v. rare	65.00
★	84a var. (Mi. 167KZ): 1920, 20h, gutter tete beche pair, vf -----	16.00
★	84a, 84a var. plus 84 (2) (Mi. 167K plus 167KZ): 1920, 20h, tete beche and gutter pair in compl row with 2 additional stamps, margs., vf -----	21.00
★	87a (Mi. 175K): 1920, 50h, tete beche pair, vf -----	10.00
★	87a var. (Mi. 175KZ): 1920, 50h, tete beche gutter pair, vf -----	22.00
★	87a(2) plus 3 (Mi. 175K plus 175KZ): 1920, 50h, tete beche and tete beche gutter pair in row with three additional stamps, vf -----	36.00
★	88 var. (Mi. 177B): 1920, 100h, line perf 13¾, nh, vf -----	9.00
★	88 var. (4) (Mi. 177B): 1920, line perf 13¾, block of 4, n.h., centered to L., f-vf -----	27.50
★	89 var. (Mi. 178B): 1920, 150h, line perf 13¾, vf -----	27.50

★	92-94 var. (Mi. 202B-204B): 1923, 100, 200, 300h, Type III, line perf 13¾, vf -----	24.00
★	93 var. (Mi. 203A): 1923, 200h, comb. perf. 13¾x13½, regummed, f. -----	16.00
★	94 var. (Mi. 204A): 1923, 300h, Type II, comb perf 13¾x13½, vf -----	21.00
★	94 var. (Mi. 204B): 1923, 300h, Type II, line perf. 13¾, vf -----	13.50
★	94 var. (Mi. 204BIII): 1923, 300h, line perf 13¾, Type III, corner crease. vf appearance -----	9.00
★	Bet. 78-94: 1920, Allegory, 100-300h, ten stamps, various types and perfs, on album pages, vf -----	10.00
★	Bet. 61-91: 1920, 5-1000h, 44 stamps, incl. 61a, also perf and other vars., on album pages, vf -----	14.50
★	102 (Mi. 228): 1925, 1k, Type II, vf -----	13.50
★	102 (Mi. 228): 1925, 1k, Type II, almost vf with L sheet margin ---	15.00
★	102 (4) (Mi. 228): 1925, 1k, Type II, block of 4, T sheet margin, vf -----	92.50
★	Bet. 105-116: 1925-26, Masaryk, 1-3k, seven stamps, Types III-VI and unvmkd, also 50h with straight mustache, f-vf -----	11.00
★S	109-141: 1926, 20h-5k, 33 stamps, incl. 2k ultramarine and both types No. 120, f-vf -----	12.00
★	135(4): 1927, 2.50k, BL corner block of 4 with Pl. No. "1", vf ----	8.00
★	135(4): 1927, 2.50k, BL corner block of 4 with Pl. No. "1A", vf --	7.50
★S	142-157, 157a, 159-163, 165-167, 183 (2): 1928-31, 5h-10k, 27 stamps, complete sets incl shades, vf -----	7.00
★S	Bet. 158-P25: 1920-38, 118 stamps plus gutter pair, mostly compl. sets on album pages, f-vf -----	12.00
★S	175-178 (2) var.: 1930, Masaryk Birthday, 2, 3, 5, 10k with top or bottom inscriptions, compl set of each, vf -----	11.00
★	192 var. (Mi. 319SZ): 1933, Nitra 50h, vert. gutter pair, vf and rare	37.00
★	Bet. 209-250: 1935-38, 28 items, gutter pairs or se-tenant with ornamented fields, vf -----	14.00

SEMI-POSTALS

1919 "Pošta Československá 1919" Overprints
overprinted on Austrian Stamps

★	B4 (Mi. 42b): 6h, black overpr. vf and very rare -----	210.00
★	B8, 10, 12, 13 vars.: 20, 30, 50, 60h, inverted overprints, vf -----	11.50
★	B8a (Mi. 64b): 20h light green, overpr. Type I, vf -----	11.00
★	B8a: 20h light green, overpr. Type II, vf -----	10.50
★	B17 (Mi. 50b): 1k, black overprint, vf -----	14.00
★	B18a (Mi. 51): 2k dark blue, centered and a vf copy of this rarity; signed Gilbert and with "Friedl E. C." Cert. -----	375.00
★	B19, 20a (Mi. 53, 56): 1919, 3k carmine, 4k deep green, f-vf -----	10.00
★	B19a (Mi. 52): 3k claret, well centered, vf and rare -----	90.00
★	B21 (Mi. 58): 10k violet, overpr. Type I, vf -----	29.00
★	B21 (Mi. 58): 10k violet, overpr. Type II, vf -----	29.00
○	B21 (Mi. 58): 10k violet on grayish paper, overpr. Type I, vf ----	27.00
★	B21 (Mi. 58): 10k violet on grayish paper, overpr. Type II, vf ----	28.00
★	B21a (Mi. 54): 10k deep violet, overpr. Type I, vf -----	32.50
★	B21a (Mi. 54): 10k deep violet, overpr. Type II, vf -----	35.00
★	B26 (Mi. 98): 10h Newspaper, fresh and vf -----	130.00
★	B33 (Mi. 68): 5h Special Handling, fresh and vf -----	90.00
★	B34 var.: 2h Special Handling, vert. pair, imperf between, both stamps overpr. Type I, vf -----	31.00
★	B34 var.: 2h, vert. pair, imperf between, T stamp Type I, B stamp Type II, vf and very rare -----	42.50
★S	B37-39 (Mi. 71-73): 1.50, 2.50, 4k Air Post, vf -----	130.00
★	B43 (Mi. 77): 14h Postage Due, vf -----	6.00

★	B45 (Mi. 79): 30h, vf -----	32.00
★	B46 (Mi. 80): 50h, vf -----	80.00
★	B57 (Mi. 91): 10k, vf -----	29.00
★	B58 var. (Mi. 92 var.): 1h Postage Due, var. oval 'O' in 'PORTO' vf	15.00
★	B59 (Mi. 93): 15h on 2h, vf -----	12.00
★	B60 (Mi. 94): 10h on 24h, vf -----	12.00
★	B62 (Mi. 96): 20h on 54h, vf -----	12.00

Overprinted on Hungarian Stamps

★	B64 (Mi. 104): 1f, nh, vf, very rare -----	200.00
★	B65-69: 2, 3, 6, 50, 60f, vf -----	8.00
★	B66, 69 (Mi. 106, 109): 3.50f, vf -----	9.60
★	B70 (Mi. 110): 70f, fresh, centered slightly to L, vf and rare ----	105.00
★	B71 (Mi. 118): 10f white numerals, vf -----	27.00
★	B72 (Mi. 119): 15f white numerals, vf -----	11.00
★	B89 (Mi. 136): 5k, centered slightly to B, vf -----	6.00
★	B90 (Mi. 137): 10k, well centered, vf -----	95.00
★	B108 (Mi. 148): 12f green and black Postage Due, wmkd Crown, fresh, minute interior flaw, a fine copy of this rarity -----	235.00
★	B110 (Mi. 140): 50f green and black, wmkd Crown, vf -----	21.00
★	B111 (Mi. 145): 1f green and black, wmkd Double Cross, vf ----	115.00
★	B112 (Mi. 146): 2f green and black, wmkd Double Cross, vf with "Friedl E. C." Cert. -----	35.00
★	B113 (Mi. 147): 5f green and black, vf -----	110.00
★	B115 (Mi. 150): 1f green and red, centered to R, f. -----	12.00
★	Bet. B1-123: Balance of the "Posta Ceskoslovenska" overprints, 82 stamps, on album pages, f-vf -----	23.00
★S	B124(2), 125(2), 126-129 vars.: 1919, 15-120h imperf, compl. set of 6, also 15h light green and 25h light brown, vf -----	6.50
★	B128 var. (2): 1919, 100h, vert. pair, imperf horiz., vf -----	8.50
★	B130-132 vars.: 1920, 40, 60h imperf, 125h with addit. ornaments, also 60h Proof in orange in pair, one without overprint, vf ----	14.00
★S	B137-139: 1925, Olympic Congress, 50, 100, 200h, compl. set, vf --	18.00
★S	B140-143: 1926, Sokol, 50-300h, compl. set, vf -----	13.00
★	B142 var. (4): 1926, Sokol, 200h, block of 4 with shifted overprint, T stamps have no "PRAHA 1926", B stamps at T, cent. to BR, vf	31.00

AIR POST

★S	C1-3: 1920, 14, 24, 28k imperf. compl. set, vf -----	12.00
★	C1-3 (4): 1920, 14, 24, 28k imperf. compl. set, blocks of 4, vf ----	45.00
PR	Sa. PP4b, 5: 1920, 14k in brown on 1000h, 24k in blue on 1000h, trial overprint, vf -----	12.00
PR	Sa. PP6h,j etc.: 1920, 28k on 500h(2), one black, other blue surch., 28k on 1000h, black surcharge, vf -----	15.00
★S	C4-6: 1920, 14, 24, 28k perf. compl. set, vf -----	18.00
★	C4-6(4): 1920, 14, 24, 28k perf. blocks of 4, compl. set vf -----	80.00
★	C6a: 1920, 28k on 1000h (line perf 13¼), inverted surch., vf ----	25.00
★	C7-9(5): 1922, 50, 100, 250h, compl. set in blocks of 4 and singles, vf	9.00
★S	C10-18, 12, 13(2), 14-16 vars.: 1930, 30h-20k compl. 15 stamps incl. all shades, also var. "no hill at L" of 3k (Sa. 16a), f-vf -----	6.50
★	C10-12, 14, 17(2) vars. (Mi. 303B-307B, 310B): 1930, 50m-20k, perf. 12¼, set of 6 incl. two shades of 17, vf. -----	12.00

SPECIAL DELIVERY

★	E1, 2 vars.: 1919, 2. 6h vert. gutter pairs, vf -----	30.00
★	E3a (Mi. 195y): 1919, 10h on white paper, Scott price erroneous, vf	24.00

POSTAGE DUES

- ★S J1-14: 1918, 5-2000h, compl. set of 14, vf ----- 8.00
 ★ J43, 49, 53 var. (Mi. 36C, 46B, 50B): 1926, 40, 100h, comb perf. 13¼x
 13½; 1927, 50h, line perf 13¼, vf ----- 13.00
 ★ J50 var. (Mi. 47B): 1927, 100h, line perf. 13¼, fresh, vf, very rare 50.00
 ★ Bet. J15-69: Balance of Postage Dues, 1920-28, 59 stamps, incl.
 compl. sets, also perf vars., on album pages, vf ----- 9.00

NEWSPAPER STAMPS

- ★ P1 var. (Mi. 13SZ): 1918, 2h, vert. gutter pair, slight creases in
 gutter as usual, vf ----- 8.00

SLOVAKIA

- ★S 2-23: 1939, 5h-10k, compl. set of 22, nh, vf ----- 26.00

EASTERN SILESIA

- ★ 1920 No. 3, 4 (Mi. 3, 6): 5, 15h imperf, large margins, vf ----- 12.50
 ★ 21a (Mi. 25b): 1000h, black overprint, vf ----- 21.00
 ★ 24, 27 vars. (Mi. 5C, 10C): 10, 25h, perf. 11¼, vf ----- 6.00
 ★ 24a(2) (Mi. 5A): 10h yellow green, imperf pair, vf, rare ----- 80.00
 ★ 25 var. (Mi. 6B): 15h, line perf 13¼, scarce and vf; signed Tribuna 24.00
 ★ 26a (Mi. 8): 20h imperf, vf ----- 36.00
 ★ 27 var. (4) (Mi. 10F): 25h, line perf 13¼x11½, block of 4, vf -- 12.50
 ★ 28 var. (Mi. 16D): 60h, perf 13¼x13½, vf ----- 26.00
 ★S 31, 32 (Mi. 26, 27): 500, 1000h, vf ----- 19.00
 ★ J1 var. (Mi. 1b): Postage Due 5h, black overprint, vf ----- 10.00
 ★ Balance of Country Bet. 1-P5: 50 stamps, incl. compl. sets, on
 album pages, vf ----- 7.00

SIBERIA, Czechoslovak Army Post

- ★ Mi. A1: 1918, Issued at Tscheljabinsk, Russia 10k, overpr. "Tschezkja
 Pocta", vf but for slight crease, rare; signed Mrnak, Franek, etc. 65.00
 ★S 31-33, 31a-33a (Mi. 1-3, 4A-6A): 1919, 25, 50k, 1r, perf 11½ and same
 imperf. compl sets, much underpriced by Scott, f-vf ----- 20.00
 ★S 34-45 (Mi. 7-17): 1919-20, 2k-1r, compl. set of 11, vf ----- 25.00

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Parade Of New Issues

Edited by Frank Kosik



The Czechoslovak Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications issued on December 15, 1962, a set of six stamps depicting different kinds of beetles.

1. 20h Sycophant (*Calosoma sycophanta*). Colors: red-brown, blue, green, blk.
2. 30h Cardinal beetle (*Pyrochroa coccinea*). Colors: green, red, yellow, black.
3. 60h Stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*). Colors: olive-green, light brown, red-brown and black.
4. 1 Kcs Great Water beetle (*Dytiscus marginalis*). Colors: blue, brown, green and black.
5. 1.00 Kcs Longicorn R. Alpina (*Rosalia alpina*). Colors: brown, green, grey-blue and black.
6. 2 Kcs Ground beetle (*Carabus intricatus*). Colors: yellow-green, green, blue and black.

Design by Z. Bilková and V. Sivko. Engraved by J. Herčík, J. Mráček, L. Jirka and B. Housa.

Printed by multicolor flat bed recess process in sheets of ten. Dimensions of the stamp picture, 23x30 mm.

Two First Day Covers were issued with this emission, designed by Z. Bilková and engraved by J. Goldschmied.

On the occasion of XIIth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the Ministry of Transport and Communications issued on December 4, 1962, a set of three stamps:

1. 30 h graphic representation of building crane
2. 40 h agricultural produce
3. 60 h industrial plants

All stamps have the inscription "XII. Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia—Praha 1962".

Designer: Ruda Šváb, academic artist. Engraved by: 1. J. Goldschmied, 2. and 3. Jos. Herčík.

The stamps were printed in the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 25. Dimensions of the stamp picture are 30x49 mm.



The stamps are valid in internal and international postal use from Dec. 4, 1962 until further notice.

The cachet on the First Day Cover was designed also by Ruda Šváb and engraved by J. Goldschmied.

Stamp Emission Program for 1963

	Face value: Kčs	US \$
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FEBRUARY—A series to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the Victorious February and the Trade Union Congress (4 values). Kčs .30, .30, .40 and .60	1.60	.222
MARCH—Cultural Events (6 values) Kčs .20, .30, .40, .60, .80, 1.60	3.90	.542
APRIL—Cosmic Research (6 values) Kčs .30, .50, .60, 1.00, 1.60, 2.	6.00	.833
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Reserve—2 to 3 issues	10.00	1.39
Total face values about		Kčs 50.00 \$6.80

Above information mailed to our Editor by member George Blizil of Cleveland. Many thanks, George.

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THE FUTURE OF THE GENERAL CATALOG

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(continued from the December, 1962, issue)

The era of the "whole world collector" came to an end with World War I. The field became too big, and collectors restricted their collecting first to groups of countries, such as the Americas, the British Empire or Europe, and eventually to single countries. But at the same time the first collections appeared which grouped the stamps according to their purpose or to the reason for their issuance, which led to collections of War Stamps, Red Cross stamps and similar ones. After World War I the first big group of this kind, the Air Post Stamps, started to emerge, being the only one which during the years has preserved its identity and is recognized as the foremost philatelic group dealing only with stamps issued for a special purpose. World War II became another turning point in philately. The issuance of special issues by a number of countries in the post-war years, featuring the same idea or commemorating the same event, became a new factor which led to separate collections of such issues. But these new fields were still within the scope of regular philately. "Topical" collecting, which came into vogue after World War II, did not belong in this category, it was an alien idea implanted on philately. The various branches of collecting are children of mother Philately, all of them, except "topical" collecting, legitimate ones. Topical collecting is, if we may be excused for the unkind but pertinent word, a bastard. Its mother is philately, but it has many fathers, botany, zoology, geography, biography, history, and countless more. The original purpose of philately, to collect the labels used to pay for postal fees, is entirely immaterial to the topical collector, he usually even does not care whether a stamp was issued or remained unissued. He has found in stamps the means to collect nice pictures of flowers, birds, bridges, famous personalities, etc., etc., a purpose which could be accomplished just as well—but probably would be more expensive—by collecting photographs of such items. Stamps are for the "topical" collector simply a cheap substitute for pictures, an idea which is entirely alien to the basic concept of "classical" philately. It should not be denied that there are some connections between "classical" and "topical" philately, which is not surprising as they are children of the same mother. Some "classical" collectors have, as a sideline, added a topical collection to their regular one and derive quite some fun out of it; a few are even collecting "topicals" by "classical" methods, which makes them differ from other "classical" collectors only by the fact that they collect solely philatelic items issued for a particular purpose—for example sports events—and with designs related to it. But in all other respects, there is a complete split between "classical" and "topical" collecting, the latter not even using the same tools as the former, as a "topical" collector does not need a watermark detector or a perforation gauge. And this is still more obvious in the literature they use. The "topical" collector needs the stamp encyclopedia only for the identification of the stamps and for no other information, and he uses it only as a substitute, as long as "topical" collecting is forced to hang for such information on the coattails of "classical" philately, before it has developed its own catalogs. And this brings us back to the problems of the general catalogs. How can a general catalog even try to cater to such an alien body without changing its whole structure? Anyone who believes that the general catalog as it is now will be able to serve both the "classical" and the "topical" collectors does not realize that no compromise between these two groups is possible and that the present cataloging system will be able to serve only the "classical" group and cannot satisfy the other without basic changes.

The general catalogs, as they are now, serve the needs of the "classical" collectors, but for most of them, only a relatively small part of the listings is of any interest at all, because practically nobody collects any more all countries of the world, from 1840 until today. Whether the collector's field is only one country or a group of countries, or he collects only the classic or even only the imperforate issues, or he concentrates on new issues, or he loves to collect only air post stamps, semi-postal stamps or another similar group, in any case, he uses only a rather small part of the information the general catalog provides. The division of the catalog gives a number of collectors the possibility to buy only one part of the catalog, because all they collect is included in it. Many collectors who collect one country only even dispense with buying a general catalog, the specialized catalogs of the specific countries serving all their needs for information.

When we investigate further the needs of the great majority of "classical" collectors, we will come to the conclusion that there is still another possibility of dividing the general catalogs which looks rather revolutionary but actually may prove to be a more satisfactory solution to the problem than any other. We are referring to a division by regular and special issues. To explain what we mean, it seems first to be necessary to define the term "regular" issue. In simple language, we consider any postal stamp a regular stamp which was issued to pay for a postal fee, with no other motives attached to such issuance. Therefore, the stamps issued by every country solely for the payment of postage, air post fees, special delivery and other postal fees, for collecting postage due, etc., are regular stamps. Such stamps become "special" issues when another purpose is connected with their issuance, for example to commemorate a historical or to celebrate an actual event, to propagate an idea, to promote the natural or industrial products of a country or to induce tourism, to collect money for charity or other purposes, in short any aim not connected with their purpose of collecting postal fees. For the superficial onlooker, no clear-cut division seems to be possible between "regular" and "special" issues, especially because in recent years a number of countries have successfully tried to becloud the character of the stamps they are issuing, masquerading some as "regular" issues although they are "special" ones. But close scrutiny, especially knowledge of the factual data and study of the history of every stamp issue, will in our opinion provide a reliable yardstick for placing every issue in one of the two groups. The main criteria for a "regular" issue must be that its printing and its period of use is not to be limited in advance, that it must be sold at or used by the post offices for the payment of postage fees (not only at a philatelic window or to subscribers) and that it must be sold without open or hidden surtax. If we use the above criteria, we will find that every stamp issue can be definitely assigned to one of the two groups. It will appear that these criteria even solve the problem of a stamp issue which was originally issued for commemorative purposes but remained in use indefinitely, replacing the previous issue and therefore to be considered a regular issue. Examples for these are the 1888 issue of New South Wales, the 1908 issue of Austria and the 1911 issue of Bavaria, the latter except the two special stamps (Scott #92 and 93) which were issued only temporarily and in limited quantity, therefore qualifying as "special" issue. A nice example are also the Dollfuss issues of Austria, the 10s stamp, as part of the regular issue, being a "regular" stamp, while the two 24g stamps, issued as commemoratives for temporary use, are being classified as "special" stamps.

An investigation of the general catalogs shows that in recent years the "special" issues have by far outnumbered the "regular" issues. There are even new countries which characteristically have issued almost no regular postage stamps. Of the "dead" countries, about 60% issued only "regular" stamps,

while the "live" countries only four—Andorra and three newly created territories—have not issued any "special" issues. Within the various "live" countries, the percentage of "special" issues is increasing from year to year, some countries having issued only "special" issues but no "regular" issues for several years. In the last decade (1951 through 1960)—we are considering here only postage and air post stamps as there are hardly any special issues among the other kinds of postal stamps—the percentage of "special" stamps varies from 0 to almost 100%, but the average is between 50 and 75%, only the "Iron Curtain" countries, some of the Asian and African countries and several Central American Republics having a percentage of 85 to 95% for the "special" issues. We did not make an actual figuring, but we believe that at present about half of all stamps listed in the catalogs are "regular" and half "special" stamps, with the balance shifting from year to year in favor of the "special" issues which are increasing much faster than the "regular" ones. A division of the general catalog into two parts, one for the "regular" issues and one for the "special" ones, would help to solve several problems. Only the volume of the "regular" issues would need the more or less elaborate listings of the present catalogs, while the volume of the "special" issues could be cut down to essentials, dispensing with indications about paper, watermark, perforations, etc., which are of no importance to the collectors, except the specialists of a country who in turn get this information anyway from the specialized catalogs. Such condensed listings would be made necessary also by the fact that the "special" issues part would have to accommodate annually many more new stamps than the volume with the "regular" stamps. Again it would be sufficient to publish the "regular" volume every second or third year, while the "special" one should come out yearly or, better, twice a year. We are sure that such an arrangement would be beneficial to all, that the "classical" collectors and those who would adopt the "new" field of "regular" stamps would be happy with it and that those in love with the colorful and stimulating "special" issues—for whom the "regular" issues have always been only a drab and unexciting annex—would be equally satisfied.

Even the "topical" collectors would find such a new general catalog more to their liking, as the condensed listings of the "special" issues, with the necessity to picture every different design, would serve them better than the present listing which omits many pictures necessary for proper identification. The fact that today almost no new sets are issued with the same design for all denominations—except postage due and similar utilitarian issues—is causing a great headache to the catalog publishers, as the picturing of the many designs takes a great amount of space and makes the volume of the catalogs grow still faster. A reduction of the listings would help to accommodate these pictures, which seem to be essential for making a general catalog easily usable.

The general catalog is at the crossroads. The decision of the publishers which way they want to go in the future will not only spell for them the difference between success and failure, but also have a profound influence on the future of philately. We believe that the publishers must take notice of the split which has developed in philately; they will have to decide whether they want to serve the "classical" philately, as they did in the past, or switch to "modern" philately, which would mean a completely new structure for the catalog. We are convinced that they cannot serve both groups, and if they should try they will fail ingloriously. There are still philatelists who do not believe in an actual split in philately, whose wishful thinking wants to make believe that many or at least some of the "topical" collectors will eventually become good "classical" philatelists. We cannot agree with that. We still have to see a single collector who started as a "topical" philatelist becoming fond of collecting stamps by the "classical" method. The "topical" and other "modern" philatelists are so brain-

washed by propaganda and the promotional stories of philatelic agencies and new issue dealers that they have lost the faculty of becoming philatelists in the old-established sense. We should acknowledge this as a fact and stop kidding ourselves into believing that the "modern" philatelists will one day become good "classical" ones. Oldfashioned philately will have to stand on its own and rely on its many attractions to remain an active and fascinating hobby for everyone. The publishers of the general catalogs must believe in the healthy sturdiness and in the future of collecting by "classical" methods. If they do and fashion their products accordingly, we will not have to worry about the future of the general catalogs. They will have the backing of a large group of dedicated and steadfast philatelists, able to provide the necessary financial support.



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Essay and Proof Check List
OF THE HRADČANY CASTLE ISSUES OF 1918-20
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society Hradčany Study Group
 (continued from last issue)

Trial Prints

A. BOOK PRINTS.

These were printed in regularly issued colors on white chalk paper:

3h red violet	type I
5h yellow green	I
10h red	I
30h red violet	IV
100h brown	II
200h ultramarine	II
1000h red violet	IV

B. BLACK PRINTS

The black prints come in all values with no gum. Prints are found on white, gray, or yellowish paper; in gloss or regular finish, either thin or carton thickness. In addition to the above, the 3 heller value is known on rose paper and the 100 heller is known on white paper, gummed.

C. COLOR TRIAL PRINTINGS, UNGUMMED ON VARIOUS PAPERS.

Value	Type	Color of Stamp	Color of Paper
1h	III	red	white, with gum
5h	I	red brown	yellowish
5h	I	blackish brown	white chalk
5h	I	dark violet	brown
5h	V	dark brown	white, with gum
5h	V	brown black	white, with gum
5h	V	blue	white chalk
5h	V	black	white chalk
5h	V	brick red	white chalk
5h	V	rose	white chalk
5h	V	violet, with offset	white chalk
5h	V	brown	white chalk
5h	V	brown, but with value of 15Kc in red brown	white chalk
10h	I	yellow	white chalk
10h	I	red violet	white
10h	I	red	white
10h	I	green, negative	
10h	I	brown	
10h	I	blue	white chalk
10h	I	rose	white chalk
10h	V	blue	
10h	V	violet blue	
10h	V	violet blue, doubleprint	
15h	V	red	white, with gum
15h	V	dark olive	white, with gum
15h	V	red	yellow chalk
15h	V	ultramarine	white, with gum
15h	V	violet blue	white, with gum
15h	V	blue green	white, with gum
15h	V	blue green	brown
20h	V	blue	stamp paper, with gum

20h	V	olive	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	violet	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	black green	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	dark green	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	chocolate	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	purple	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	yellow green	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	maroon	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	olive green	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	red brown	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	orange	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	red violet	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	bright blue	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	blue green	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	dark red	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	black brown	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	red orange	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	dark olive	stamp paper, with gum
20h	V	rum	white chalk
20h	V	brown red	white chalk
20h	V	rose	white chalk
20h	V	dark blue	white chalk
20h	V	ultramarine	white chalk
20h	V	red	carton
20h	V	violet	carton
20h	V	brown red	carton

20 h Hradčany Castle Types



Fig. I



Fig. II

Fig. I—Used for postal cards. Impression $\frac{1}{4}$ mm larger. "O" in Slov leaning to the left. "N" in Slov, upper stroke curved more to the left.

Fig. II—The issued stamp.

25h	V	olive	regular
25h	V	dark olive	white, with gum
25h	V	wine red	white, with gum
25h	V	orange	regular, with gum
30h	V	olive	regular
30h	V	olive green	white carton
30h	V	dark olive	regular
30h	V	red brown	regular, with gum
30h	V	olive	brown

(to be continued)

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