THE CZECHOSLOVAK SDECIALIST

Official publication of the

Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

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Vol. XXVI

May 1964

No. 243

EDITORIAL

We have made extensive progress in our preparation for the Silver Anniversary Exhibition and Convention on October 9-11 as guests of NOJEX in Newark, New Jersey, and we are looking forward to a really great attendance. We were informed by the Chairman of NOJEX that their committee will mail out the prospectus for the reservation of frames during the month of April. We wish to advise our members to take care of the matter promptly because we should have a truly big showing and the show committee must know as soon as possible how many frames to reserve for the members of our Society. We hope that the membership will oversubscribe and that more than fifty frames will be reserved.

Dinner arrangements were made by member Emil J. Michaelson and we urgently ask you to make your reservations. His address is: 1833 Arbor Lane, Union, N. J. Kindly enclose check for \$4.50 representing cost of dinner and gratuities. As we stated in a previous issue our anniversary dinner will be held on Friday night, October 9th (fish or meat course) when all awards of our Society will be presented and also when every Charter Member will receive a specially designed silver pin to commemorate the occasion. Now, charter members, do not miss the opportunity to attend this dinner and maybe you will get a gold pin 25 years hence. This will be a gala affair and we hope to greet many of you there.

On Saturday afternoon we will have our Convention meeting, after which a prominent philatelist will deliver an interesting talk.

We were pleased to hear that Major Knox intends to attend if his health should permit and we pray that he will be in perfect health by then. In addition we have received assurance of attendance of members Kovarik and Palmer. Now let us get on the wagon and every member who can spare the time and who wishes to see the magnificent World's Fair, in combination with an outstanding philatelic show, come to our fair city.

We are doing all this planning so much ahead of time to enable all of you to make your plans. Some of you can take your vacation or part of it in October and so be free to come here.

Do not forget to take care immediately your frame reservation if you have not yet done it. Make your dinner reservation also promptly. If you wish to stay at the Hotel Robert Treat in Newark, write to them for room reservations. That is the Exhibition hotel where we stayed last year. Make your plans so as to be free to come here in October.

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As usual we have the cooperation of member Verner regarding the translation of the very fine book on Counterfeits, forgeries and fakes. We need another translator whom we sincerely hope to secure. We do not wish to overburden our good friend Jerry Verner. We doubt that it is needful to emphasize that we would like to hear from more members. We are sure that there are a number of you who could describe your interesting holdings or write on some other subject of philatelic interest. Our great supporter, Mr. Beede, will not have much time for the next year or so. He finished a most marvelous article on some German postal history just before his departure for the military. Actually, only one day before entering service did he drop us a few lines saying that he had done the work. This is original material and will be printed in the German Postal Specialist.

Herbert Rosen of Interpex fame has recently published a new philatelic monthly, PHILATELY. This is a really unusual philatelic magazine. The descriptions are historical, archeological or scientific and represent background to a philatelic issue. This is a novel venture and from the point of view of securing extensive background information, it is a most unique approach to a journal of the type. We truly enjoyed reading the issue on hand and we have learned a great deal from it.

Our Specialist dispatcher, member Kovarik, wishes to inform the patron members that their bound volume was mailed out in March. If by any chance the copy has not yet reached one of those members, kindly communicate with Frank Kovarik.

We are soliciting articles for the October issue of the Specialist. We will need articles for the STAMPS January 30th issue and for LINN'S August 1965 issue (both of the latter will be issues of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society). Your efforts in this respect are imperative to enable us to turn out fine publications emphasizing our able membership to the collectors at large.

Let us not forget that we need ads for the October Convention issue of the Specialist. Please bear in mind that this issue will be larger and will be presented as a special one to our members. Your Editor is only too happy to work hard for you but your cooperation is required for success.

We have recently joined the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain. We were surprised to learn that we are the first from the USA to have done so. The society issues bulletins at irregular intervals and the dues are 5/=70 cents per year. If you join now you may pay for your membership until September 30, 1965, by sending \$1.20. Please send your request to us. We have written for additional application blanks and should have them on hand shortly. There are many very fine collectors of Czechoslovakia in that society and we feel that closer contact could be of mutual benefit.

Member Wm. Schoenig has started a stamp club in his home town which in a very short time has grown into the largest club in Nassau or Suffolk counties on Long Island.

If you wish to continue receiving the Specialist please pay your dues to the Treasurer, J. Stein, 585 East 21st St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226.

CLARENCE J. KOZAK

We were shocked to learn of the passing of a very good friend of ours. Member Roster #472, Clarence J. Kozak was a true friend and we very much enjoyed spending our time with him and his lovely family whenever we had the opportunity to get together.

Clarence was a fine musician who played in the orchestra for many years until his disability reduced his musical activities to teaching only at his home.

Our warm sympathy goes to his family, in which the officers and members join us.

CORRECTIONS

On page 62 of the April issue of the Specialist in the second paragraph the authors' names were incorrectly listed. Padělky Československých Poštovních Známek was written by Jan Karásek, Zděnek Kvasnička and Břetislav Pauliček with the assistance and advice from Jan Mrnak.

NEW MEMBERS

- 758 Viola R. Rossmann, Mrs., 1421 South 59th St., West Allis, Wisc. 53214
- 759 Edwin J. Hanish, 1617 Van Buren St., Bronx 60, N. Y.
- 760 John Kratochvil, Sr., 158 Crary Ave., Binghamton, N. Y.
- 761 John S. Kessl, 412 Homedale Blvd., Riverside, Ont., Canada
- 762 Frank Alsberg, 1412 Ashland Ave., Evanston, Ill. 60201
- 763 Hugo Freund, 716 N. Davis, West, Texas
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CHAPTERS ON PHILATELY

From Mladá Fronta of Aug. 8, 1963

Almost symbolically, just a year after his leave, we were revisited by a good friend of Czechoslovakia, a noted philatelist and the President of the Museum of Modern Arts in Miami, Mr. Bernard Davis. He was the U. S. General Commissioner on the Praga 1962 show and is the official delegate of the United States to the Istanbul 1963 Exhibition. At a small party held in the Secretariat of the Czechoslovak Federation of Philatelists, he opined that every civilized country is proud of its art treasures and popularizes them. He advised us to arrange a meeting of interested partners of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Ministry of Finance, POD, the Federation of Czechoslovak Philatelists, Artia and Pofis, in order to work out a method whereby it could be arranged that each year a set of Czechoslovak stamps be issued which, in effect, would be miniature reproductions of our art treasures and those of the world. He is quite well acquainted with our Art Museums and just as well with our stamps. And it is because he knows both, that he sincerely wishes for the latter to keep step with the present, and this suggestion of his ought not fall into oblivion. Maybe these stamps could carry a surtax and from the proceeds of this surtax the State could purchase works of art of native artists and from the sales of stamps sold abroad those of foreign masters. Effects would be twofold, both economic and social. By knowing in advance the approximate sums that would be available in the future for this purpose, it would be easy to plan these purchases quite far ahead and thus most likely, acquire them also cheaper. Stamp issues like this, would not concern solely philatelists, as they do now, for art, the State and society in general would also profit.

It is our belief that in the above mentioned institutions there are also members of the CSM department (CSM=Youth Federation, whose newspaper is "Mladá Fronta"—comment of the translator) who read their newspaper and we look forward to your comments to Mr. Davis' suggestion. We also hope that the get-together of the representatives of these various institutions will be arranged and that they will discuss the pros and cons and reach a mutual agreement. That this idea can be carried through is best proven by the just released Czechoslovak Folk Art set, designed by the national artist Karel Svolinský and engraved by Ladislav Jirka.

(G. A. Blizil)

A Philatelic Dilemma

Reprinted from Filatelie Translated by G. R. Skopecek





Fig :

Fig. 2

An interesting variant of the 2 Kčs Postage Due stamp (Scott J66) was submitted to Filatelie by K. Javůrek of Praha. It concerned a stamp with deformed letter A in the word DOPLATNÉ. Was it a plate defect or a retouch? Filatelie requested Zampach Brothers of Brno for their expert opinion. Their report is as follows:

The submitted stamp does not show any accidental or typical defects, which would point to any damage to the original design.

To the background line above the letter A another line has been added (Fig. 1B) with the result that the letter A was deformed, although the design itself was not marred.

For control points of our investigation we take defects common to all stamps in the pane. These are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. They are: "a" a smear across the left side of inside frame, "c" a break in the curl of a stylized leaf, "d" a thinned out stem above letter N in the word DOPLATNÉ, and a blob of color on top of outer frame above the letter V in ČESKOSLOVENSKO.

The first thing to do is to locate the stamp on the plate, then to locate the plate itself and finally to ascertain the time of printing.

According to the control points on both stamps of the pair, it is the 57th stamp in the pane and the violet blue color shows that it was printed with the first plate in 1928. On a closer inspection, there are noticeable signs of retouching on top of the letter A, where an addition of another white line to the background cleared up a colored spot.

We believe, this retouching was done on the first plate of 1928 and because the appearance of retouching was not as noticeable as the color spot, it was overlooked. Because the stamps were printed with electrotypes, the retouch should appear on all plates of this value. This supposition was confirmed by the fact that on the submitted stamps were cancels of 1929 and 1930. In our own collection we have some of these stamps with 1932 cancels and their

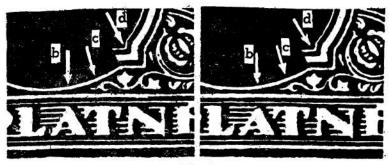


Fig. 3

color corresponds to the color of the first issue.

However, the last plate of the 2 Kes value with a numeral "1" of 1923 has the letter A on the 57th stamp completely retouched as seen on Fig. 2. The retouching was very well done, the apex of the letter is sharper, a bit out of plumb, leaning to the left. The lines in the background are cleanly cut and all control points agree. The stamps printed with this plate are of two shades—dull blue and bright ultramarine.

Another question is—What was the appearance of the original defect? The 95th stamp in the pane has a partly deformed letter A (Fig. 2b). It is our opinion that, that was the original defect and being more pronounced on the 57th stamp, was therefore retouched.

This is a first class defect and shows up on all plates in the same place.

Out of all control points we verified only one: The thinned out tendril between the two stylized leaves (Fig. 3b) over the letter N in Doplatné. We intentionally call this typical, because it shows up on 35 stamps in the pane of this value.

According to these investigations, the stamp with the deformed letter A should be called retouched and we marked it "Retouch A". However, the stamp in the same location in the pane, but from plate "1" of 1933 we mark "Retouch R".

Taking into consideration the large number of plates used in printing this value, on which these retouches appear, used stamps with the "Retouch A" are about twice as valuable as with "Retouch B". Mint pairs and blocks are rare indeed.

-žampach Brothers

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"Travel with the man who was born there".

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Hlas Lidu

An Additional Newspaper Label To Add To Those of 1918

Translated from "Zpravodaj-Naši Filatelie" by Joe Nedomlel St. Albans, Victoria, Australia



Most of us have in our collections the provisional labels of 1918 printed at a time when it was impossible for the Czech Government to have newspaper stamps printed. Now a new one has been added, principally due to the lack of stamps—except those made by the Nazis—AFTER the liberation. News of this appeared in the Prague philatelic journal "Zpravodaj Naši Filatelie" in February 1946 and may be translated as follows:

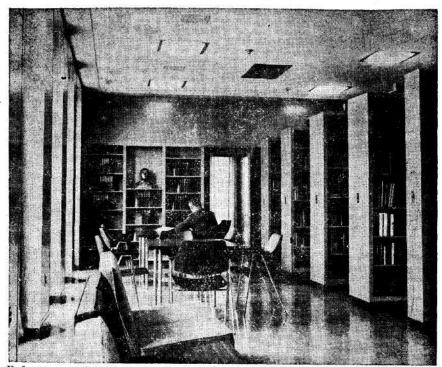
"Mr. F. Eiler of Prostějov writes that the Journal "Hlas Lidu" was prohibited during the German occupation and re-appeared after the capitulation of the Germans. It was a weekly publication and the publisher refused to use German stamps. He approached the Prostějov Printing Service and ordered some Provisional Czech labels reading "Hlas Lidu v Prostějove pošovne zaplaceno" (i.e. People's Voice from Prostějov, postage paid). These were printed in small sheets of 20 labels. Only a few thousands were run off. The labels were mostly cut up and, so far as is known, only 45 complete sheets remain. Soon afterwards the use of newspaper labels was officially prohibited. The publisher of Hlas Lidu used these labels for five or six issues only. A similar label was used by the newspaper čIN in Erno, but it was printed in green. Another newspaper ("Rovnost") used labels printed in red. All these items were private ideas of national interest, and were NOT intended to fleece philatelists. As a matter of fact, they were not considered to be a financial move, but rather a patriotic one to try and help obliterate all Germanic traces."

Whilst I am sure that members of the Czechoslovak community will be aware of this label, I am not certain that they will know its history. I therefore publish this brief translation so that collectors may feel happier about including the "Hlas Lidu" label in their collections.

(Label is 1% inches long and is printed in red (Hlas Lidu) and bronzeblue for the other two lines, on white paper.—W. L. Russell)

CARDINAL SPELLMAN PHILATELIC MUSEUM

By Ernest A. Kehr Reprinted from SPA Journal



Reference section of the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum's Library where students may read in quiet comfort.

Photographs by Jeanne B. Pogue

News of the formal dedication of the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum was reported in the philatelic and lay press. The coverage described the legion of civic, postal, philatelic and pedagogical personalities in attendance and the comments they made in tribute to His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman. They did not, however, mention the far reaching aims of the institution that promises to become the center of international philatelic servic.

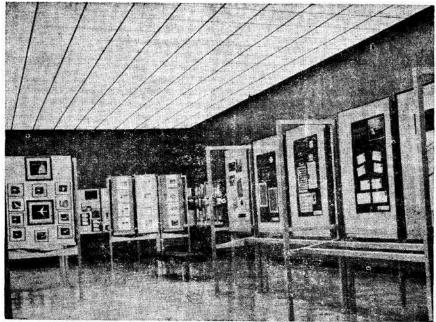
The Museum's concept goes far beyond that of being a repository for the extensive collections which have been built by or donated to Cardinal Spellman. (Even though that single purpose would justify its existence!)

No one ever has spoken out more sincerely and enthusiastically in behalf of the recreational and educational value of postage stamps, than has the famous prelate after whom the museum is named. When Cardinal Spellman first planned the museum, he insisted that it become an institution for the furtherance of those philatelic attributes.

Accordingly, even before the architects made their first sketch, the aims and ambitions of the museum were formulated. Only then did they plan the physical aspects of the building that it would be utilitarian as well as architecturally attractive.

Those of us concerned with these aims consulted with His Eminence that

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The Spellman Museum's exhibition hall for monthly displays of special interest

no worthy detail might be overlooked. We realized full well that there are a number of existing institutions, each of which offers its members and/or philatelists generally, certain specific services. The Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum may supplement and augment some of these, but will not duplicate any. Instead, it will concentrate on establishing services that are not now being offered by any existing organizations.

For example, throughout the philatelic world, there is a critical need of specialized photography. An extremely few professionals have the camera equipment necessary to accept orders for pictures of a type and quality collectors and researchers have a right to expect. And these must make rather high charges for their work.

The museum, therefore, has arranged to install a completely equipped photographic laboratory to do all kinds of work: prints of stamps submitted by collectors to be copied for illustrations in their albums; photomicrographs of unusual specimens for study purposes and to show (when mounted in an album) tiny details such as double transfers, re-engravings, etc., which are not readily visible to the naked eye.

This most modern of equipment also will enable one to obtain a complete photographic record of an entire collection, page by page, for permanent reference in general and insurance purposes in particular. (When such photographic records are available, insurance premiums are normally reduced and claims rapidly settled.)

Also, this laboratory will be able to produce high quality enlargements of any postage stamp in the world, to be framed and used as an unusual decorative item for a collector's study, or a dealer's shop.

Until the museum builds up its own file of negatives, it will have access to the writer's 100,000, thus enabling any order for any stamp picture to be filled upon request, whether it be for individual use or to illustrate a news-



Sister M. Fidelma, director of the Spellman Museum

paper, magazine, or TV feature.

Another innovational service will consist of supplying copies of any published article which a collector might want for reference and study purposes. Until now, a wealth of information has been buried in books, monographs and journals simply because persons needing them could not find or borrow the source.

Although the museum has been publishing a monthly bulletin for several years, its editorial contents had, of necessity, to be confined to news of activities in and around the Boston area.

Now that the museum is embarking upon its national career, this periodical will be advanced to a journal of permanent philatelic reference value. While a certain portion of it will be devoted to important and pertinent subjects of current interest (but without duplicating wordage already published in stamp magazines, society organs or newspaper stamp columns), its major features will be the reprinting of articles in old journals which have a definite impact upon today's collectors and collecting trends. This service will be of inestimable value to readers who never had a chance to peruse the scholarly material written by yesteryear's philatelic titans.

The musuem also plans to publish material originally written by today's philatelists on subjects of wide popular interest, similar to the one on Lindbergh, which was serialized during the last 18 months and which was so astute and informative that it has been cited, quoted or reprinted in periodicals all over the world.

All of these facilities, and others which will be introduced later, will become available to members of the museum. Until the physical building of the museum was completed, no serious attempt was made to enroll members except on a local basis for Boston-area collectors. Now however, collectors in all parts of America will become eligible to share in the work and benefits of this remarkable institution.

The membership rolls are being opened and interested collectors are being invited to become charter members of the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum.

Because of the policies under which it was established, membership dues are set at but \$5 a year, a figure which will represent only the actual costs of the benefits received. Collectors desiring to become charter members may send a \$5 remittance to the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, Weston, Mass. 02193, before December 15, although this payment will carry the applicant through all of 1964.

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Editor's Note: The National Philatelic Museum, Philadelphia, donated to the Spellman Library its assets (philatelic material and publications) amounting to more than \$250,000.00 a couple of years ago. All of it is part of the museum now.

A New Find — 10 Years Later

Zdeněk Kvasnička

Edited and translated by J. J. Verner





Fig. 1

Fig. 2

One stamp of the lion issue in the collection of the Brno collector Rožnovsý shown at the Fraga 1955 stamp exhibit was called a "new type." The main feature of the new find was a different drawing of the lion inside the oval. It had, contrary to all the known types, three clearly visible embossed lines that gave the appearance of ribs. In addition, differences also can be found in the drawing of the mane and crown, and the claws are very sharp.

It is truly amazing that this new, important discovery has had to wait so long before appearing in print and for some kind of explanation. Only recently has the expert Jan Mrňák acquired several similar pieces and, based on his new

material, he is currently trying to explain this long forgotten find.

After close examination it has been concluded that the new type did not originate from new plates, but rather was caused by re-touching the original ones. The repair of the lion was not the original purpose of the re-touch, but rather the correction of a grammatical error in the stamp's legend. (As we already know the relief printing was done with the aid of two embossing instruments). On the original plate the diacritical mark on the second I in SI-BIRE was missing and this had to be corrected. Probably the correction was





Fig. 3

Fig. 4

made during the first day of printing after the first copies had been turned over to the designers for proofing. It is probable that the designer ordered the minor changes on the plate along with the re-touch of the lion at the same time the mistake was ordered corrected. By carrying out his instructions the engraver created a new type.

I do not think that stamps of this new type will appear in large quantities, though they will certainly show up in the 2 kopek to one ruble overprints on stamps of the first printing. In my collection I have stamps of this type with both small and large sword carrying the overprints 2 kopek, 50 kopek, and one ruble. Mr. Mrňák has stamps with the large sword overprinted with the 2, 3, 5 and 10 kopek denominations.

A question mark remains concerning several stamps without overprint that have been found with the corrected I, but with the three ribs clearly visible on the lion—which, after all, was what led to the discovery of the new type. These stamps tend to indicate that a re-touch was done twice, or at least in two stages. The diacritical mark was added above the I, and somewhat later the three ribs were removed from the lion and other minor points corrected.

Collectors are urged to look though their holdings of stamps from the first printing of the "lion" issue. Theoretically this new type might appear on all values—with and without overprints.

More attention should be paid to stamps of the Siberian Field Post even though it might appear at first glance that they lack subjects for study. In fact, varieties do appear. For instance, many stamps of the second printing of the lion issue have a broken E in SIBÍŘSKÉ, double or otherwise repaired paper, and color spots. Many plate errors of the silhouette issue have not been treated in the philatelic press (for examples see "Things Known and Unknown," Czechoslovak Specialist, vol. XXIV, p. 144). Cataloging and explaining these flaws is a worthy subject for philatelic research.

SUDETENLAND MAIL AFTER 1938

Benjamin R. Beede

The famous Sudetenland overprints have often been discussed in the philatelic press, but one reads less of developments after October, 1938. My purpose here is to discuss a couple of items produced just before the expulsion of the Germans from the Sudetenland. The first is a cover cancelled at Aussig on March 28, 1945. The stamp used was a 12 Pfg. Hitler head. Before the end of the war the cover had reached German soil, but was not delivered immediately because of the breakdown of postal communications. After V-E and the resumption of service, undelivered mail was processed. Before being delivered, however, all Nazi stamps and cancellations received overprints or obliterations. Fig. 1.



Fig. 1

The second item is a post card mailed in Berlin, September 22, 1945, about six weeks after the beginning of service in that city. The sender addressed the card to Aussig. By this time, however, Aussig was again in Czechoslovakia, and in September, 1945, there was no international postal service from Ger-

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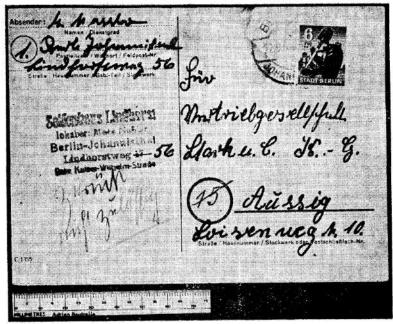


Fig. 2

many; this was only restored on April 1, 1946. Consequently, this card had to be returned to the sender with the postman's note: "Züruck, nicht zullässig," that is, "Return, not admissible." Even after April 1, 1946, perhaps service to Czechoslovakia was not started immediately. For a time, Yugoslavia refused all mail from Germany. Does anyone know the Czech policy? Fig. 2.

Parade Of New Issues Edited by Frank Kosik

9th Winter Olympic Games



Issued on January 20th, 1964, a set of three stamps in honor of the 9th Winter Olympic Games held in Innsbruck this year.

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a) 1.00 Kčs-Ice hockey. Colors: dark violet and light blue.

1.80 Kčs—Bobsledding. Colors: blue-green and gray-blue. 2.00 Kčs—Ski-jumping. Colors: blue and blue-green. b)

Design: Anna Podzemná, Academic Artist. Engraving: L. Jirka (a, b),

J. Mráček (c).

Dimensions: 30x49 mm and 49x30 mm.

Print: Rotary recess in Post Printing House, Prague, in sheets of 25.

International Winter Universiad (FIS) Czechoslovakia, 1964



- a) 0.30 Kčs-Figure skating. Colors: violet-blue and yellow.
- 0.80 Kčs-Ski running. Colors: dark blue and orange-red.
- 1.00 Kčs-World Championship in Handball. Colors: brown and violet. Design: Naděžda Synecká. Engraving: B. Housa. Dimensions: 23x40 mm and 40x23 mm.

Print: Rotary recess combined with photogravure in Post Printing House, Prague, in sheets of 50.

Commemoratives to Propagate Foreign Travel in Czechoslovakia



The Czechoslovak Board of Management of Telecommunications issued on

February 19, 1964 a set of four commemorative stamps to propagate foreign travel in Czzechoslovakia.

- 0.30 Kčs—Winter tourism, Belanské Tatry (the High Tatras). Inscription: "Navštivte Československo—Besuchen Sie die Tschechoslowakei". Colors: blackish violet and light blue.
- 0.60 Kčs—autocamping the town of Telč (Moravia). Inscription: "Navštivte Československo—Visit Czechoslovakia". Colors: dark blue and violet.
- 1.00 Kčs—Angling, Spiš Castle (Slovakia). Inscription: "Navštivte Československo—Visitez la Tchécoslovaquie". Colors: dark brown and olive.
- 1.80 Kčs—Recreation center, the town of Český Krumlov (Southern Bohemia). Inscription: "Navštivte Československo—Visiten Checoslovasuia". Colors: dark green and orange.

Every stamp bears the emblem of the Czechoslovak travel bureau ČEDOK. Design: Václav Sivko, Academic Artist. Engraving: Josef Herčik.

Dimensions: 23x41 mm.

Print: Rotary recess combined with photogravure, in sheets of 50.

Recreation Hotel Issue





On February 19, 1964, there was released another set of two depicting two new recreation hotels of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement.

- 0.60 Kčs—New recreation house "Magura," Ždiar (High Tatras). Colors: emerald green, light green.
- 0.80 Kčs—New recreation house "Slovak National Insurrection" (Low Tatras). Colors: dark blue and light violet.
- Design: Albin Brunovský, Academic Artist. Engraving: J. Schmidt (1), J. Mráček, J. Goldschmied (2).

Dimensions: 23x30 mm.

Print: Rotary recess combined with photogravure, in sheets of 50.

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