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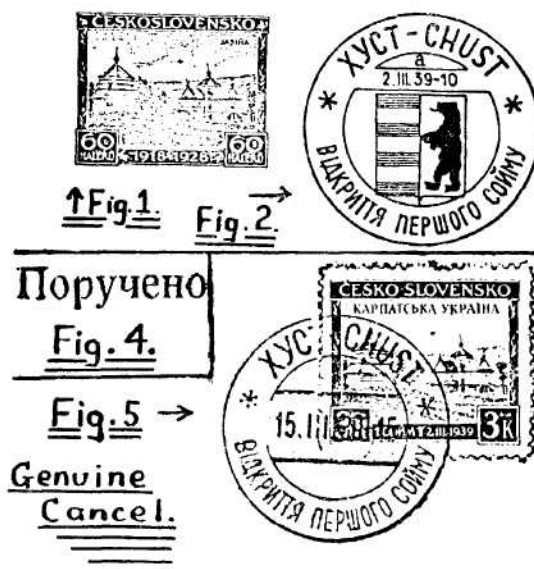
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The 1939 Stamp of the Carpatho-Ukraine

By Viktor Indra

Reprinted from the Journal of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately



At the beginning of February 1939, the daily press and some philatelic magazines of Czechoslovakia published news about the proposed issue of a stamp to commemorate the opening of the 1st Carpatho-Ukrainian National Assembly in Chust (Khust). The information was only of a general nature, since no one then knew anything that was specific. In the course of the next few days, the notices in the daily press and philatelic magazines became more concrete, but the facts seemed to contradict themselves.

For instance, the Postal Section attached to the Ministry of Economics of the Carpatho-Ukraine in Chust wrote on February 10, 1939, that this first stamp of the Carpatho-Ukraine would appear on March 21, on the occasion of

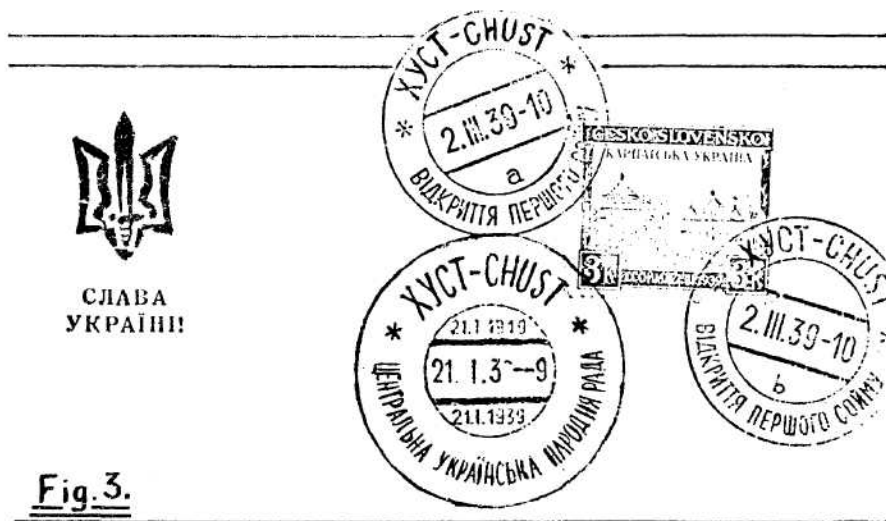


Fig. 3.

the festive opening of the First National Assembly, and that it would be of a value of 3 K., printed in blue on yellow paper. In addition to the stamp, a souvenir sheet showing the same design would also be issued. The stamp was to be sold at face value, i.e. 3 K. and the souvenir sheet for 6 K. The stamp was to be available at all post offices in the Carpatho-Ukraine, but the sheet only in Chust; the sheet would appear in a limited printing and a subscription service was also to be made available. The stamp and the sheet were to be valid until March 31, 1939. A commemorative cancel was to be applied in Chust on the opening day of the National Assembly.

A few days later, some more details about this stamp were made known. Judging from the description of the stamp design, it was to portray the characteristic wooden church at Jasina (Yasinya), which had previously been featured on a 60 hal. Czech stamp of 1928: Scott #145; Gibbons No. 281; Yvert #245; Michel #270; Zumstein #236 (see Fig. 1). In other words, the die for this 1928 stamp was to be modified to show the new value, a Ukrainian inscription above the church design reading "KARPATSKA UKRAYINA" or "Carpatho-Ukraine", and at the bottom between the values, "1. SOIM. 2 III. 1939" or "First National Assembly, March 2, 1939". The day of issue was announced as "the beginning of March." But just two days later, one could read in the philatelic magazines that it was finally decided to abandon the issuance of the souvenir sheet. The stamp was to be sold in Chust and Rakhov (Rakhov), as well as at the Philatelic Counter in Prague. However, the stamp was to be utilized only for franking mail which was handed in at Carpatho-Ukrainian post offices. Special cancels were to be applied at Chust and Rakhov.

At the end of February, it was announced that the opening of the National Assembly was to take place on March 2, 1939. This date is also given on the stamp. It was now decided to apply special cancellation only in Chust.

However, the stamp did not appear on March 2, and the opening of the National Assembly was put off for an unspecified time. The opening date was advanced to March 9, then later to March 14 and there was also word of March 21. Finally, on the 14th of that month, the Carpatho-Ukraine declared



Fig. 6.
The "Chust"
forgery - Yaroslav
S. Terlecky
Collection.



Fig. 7.
The "Latin"
forgery - Paul
M. Steele
Collection.



ОТВОРЕННЯ І СОЙМУ КАРПАТСЬКОЇ УКРАЇНИ
2. III. 1939.



Fig. 13.

itself independent and the National Assembly was convoked for 3 p.m. on March 15, 1939.

The Premier of the Carpatho-Ukraine at that time, K. U. Voloshyn, handed over to the Chust post office a handwritten decree, in which he ordered the sale of the commemorative stamp to take place. On March 15 at around 10:30 a.m., the post office telegraphed Prague to the effect that the latter should also now put the stamps on sale.

The total printing for this stamp was 900,000 copies, of which 200,000 (2000 sheets) were sent to Chust on March 1, and a further 100,000 (1000 sheets) a few days later. The 600,000 copies remaining went on sale at the Philatelic Section in Prague on March 15 as instructed and were sold out in about 10 days.

Returning to the position in Chust on March 15, the face value of the stamp, 3 K., was sufficient to send covers by registered mail and by the end of that morning about 1800 registered articles had been handed in. Some of these received, in addition to the registration label, received a Ukrainian single-line marking in red, reading "Porucheno" or "Registered" (see Fig. 4). The registered mail could not be despatched since the only possible route to the west, the Chust-Presov highway, was no longer functioning. However, it appears that at least one despatch of ordinary mail got through by bus to Presov in Slovakia before the highway was cut, since Mr. Lauson H. Stone, of Brooklyn, N. Y., has such a cover franked with the commemorative stamp properly cancelled and authenticated by a noted Ukrainian expert of the time, E. Vyrovj of Prague. The cover was addressed by ordinary mail to Slovenske Raslavice in Slovakia on March 15 and it has a backstamp applied at the destination two days later at 8 a.m. on March 17, 1939. Such examples must undoubtedly be of considerable rarity.

On March 16, 1939, at 6 p.m., Chust was occupied by the Hungarian military, and the first mail released by them was sent from Chust to Borehovo on March 18. This despatch also included all the registered sendings which had been handed in on March 15. All the mail was then sent to Budapest and forwarded from there to the addressees. Letters for occupied Bohemia and Moravia began arriving on March 20 or 21, i.e. 5 or 6 days after they had been mailed in Chust.

The unsold remainders of the stamps in Chust, as well as the cash takings, were taken over by the Hungarian authorities against a confirmatory receipt. All told, the Chust P. O. was assigned 4 special cancellers, as follows:

- (1) A pictorial type with a diameter of 33mm., showing the arms of Carpatho-Ukraine, the name "Chust" at top in Ukrainian and Czech, and at the bottom the Ukrainian inscription "VIDKRITTYYA PERSHOHO SOIMU" meaning "Opening of the First National Assembly (Fig. 2). It bears the fixed date 2. III. 39-10 with subscript "a" and was not officially applied as the stamp did not go on sale until 13 days later. The 3 K. commemorative has however been seen with this cancellation applied in red, apparently by favor after the Hungarians had occupied the town.
- (2 & 3). Two non-pictorial types, lacking the arms and with a diameter this time of 31½mm., with the same inscription and fixed date as before, but now with subscripts "a" or "b" below the date bridge. Here again, they are both known applied by favor in red on the commemorative stamp as shown on the card in fig. 3, held by Mr. Stone. He also has the "b" stamp cancelling a Czech 10 Kcs. definitive affixed to a sheet of paper. Neither of these two cancels was ever applied officially by the Ukrainian postal authorities, and usages noted here, including the additional impression in blue and yellow of an earlier special marking to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Central Ukrainian National Council on January 21, 1939, as shown on the card in fig. 3, appear to have taken place for philatelic reasons during the confusion after March 15.
- (4) Exactly as types 2 and 3, but without the subscript letters "a" or "b" and with changeable date rollers. Again with a diameter 31½ mm., this was the only official cancel and it was applied in red, reading 15. III. 39-15 (i.e. March 15, 1939, 3 p.m.). This special cancel, pictured in Fig. 5, was apparently lost in the occupation of Chust and hence not turned over to the Hungarian authorities.

Apart from this official cancellation, the normal bilingual Czech-Ukrainian double-circle dates stamps for this office, reading CHUST at top and XYST at bottom together with a subscript letter below the datebridge, continued in use. These latter markings were struck in black on normal commercial mail, while the commemorative cancel in red was applied at the special counter for philatelic mail, or upon request. For this reason, genuinely delivered registered letters, franked with the commemorative stamp and cancelled with the normal bilingual types in black are much rarer than those treated with the special cancel. By the same token, normal Czech stamps bearing the official red cancel are also very desirable items.

Because of the rarity of the commemorative stamp in used condition, forged cancellations were inevitable. Soon afterwards, the Czech philatelic magazine "Tribuna Filatelistou" warned that someone in Chust had prepared a forgery of the special cancel, made of rubber, in contrast to the genuine marking which was a steel type. This forgery is illustrated under Fig. 6 by courtesy of Mr. Yaroslav S. Terlecky, a Ukrainian specialist of Philadelphia, Pa.

Its main characteristics are as follows:

- (a) The diameter is 32¾mm as against 31½mm in the genuine type.
- (b) The "X" of "XYCT" is wider at top than in the genuine marking as shown in Fig. 5.
- (c) The asterisks are smaller than in the genuine cancel.
- (d) The serifs to the top of the "1" of the figure "15" are much longer than in the genuine cancel, and the date figures, in general, are larger than in the genuine

(to be continued)

SO 1920 OVERPRINTS ON CZECH HRADCANY STAMPS

By Oldrich Tovacovsky
Translated By G. R. Skopecek
Reprinted from Linn's

(continued from last issue)

	9		O						
11	O		S		S				19
21	19	19				O			
31	S								
41									
51									19
61	O						19		
71		9							S
81									O
91	20								
						O			

Plate B-1

Original plate agrees with the copy of plate 2 (Padelky page 228). The defect on the 55th stamp (1 broken in the middle) developed later and does not appear on all the values of this printing. The plate is recognized by the 26th stamp with O open on top.

This plate was used to overprint Hradcany values:

Imperforate—1h., 10h., 20h., 20h. green, 30h., 60h., 75h., 80h., 100h., 120h., 200h., 300h., 400h., 1000. blue overprint, and 1000h. with black overprint.

Perforated—25h. (comb 13¼x13½, comb 11¼, comb 13¼x11½), 5h., and 10h. (line 13¼).

Particular defects on plate B-1 are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 2—9 is sliced off, right bottom. | 60—Small face 1. |
| 4—O is sliced off, right. | 61—O sliced off, top. |
| 11—O is sliced, right. | 62—9 is open, top. |
| 13—S is sliced off, top left. | 67—1 and 9 spaced wide. |
| 15—Top of S is damaged. | 72—O chipped, right side. |
| 20—A large face 1. | 74—Small face O. |
| 21—Roman 1, double spacing between 1 and 9. | 80—Top of S damaged. |
| 26—O open top. | 81—Small face 2. |
| 31—Top of S chipped. | 89—Top of O chipped. |
| | 97—Top of O sliced off. |

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	9	O		O					92
11	O	O	S		S				19
21	19			9		O			
31	S								
41		S				S		2	S
51									
61	S				1 0				19
71		9				S	19		
81		1	O	O	O		S		S
91	20			S					O
91							O		100

Plate B-2

On the 26th stamp the letter O is badly damaged, left bottom. This plate was used to overprint the following Hradecany values:

Imperforate—20h. green, 500h. blue overprint.

Perforated—5h., 15h., 60h. (comb $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$), 1h., 5h., 20h. (line $13\frac{3}{4}$), 5h. (comb $11\frac{3}{4}$). The 60h. comb $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ is quite rare and it is possible the 500h. black overprint and the 15h. comb $11\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{3}{4}$ also belong to this group.

Particular defects on the B-2 plate are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2—As B-1, O is chipped. | 50—S shipped, top. |
| 4—As B-1 | 55—A white dot on 1 and zero is damaged. |
| 9—A colored dot between 9 and 2 | 60—As B-1. |
| 11—As B-1 | 61—S is damaged. |
| 12—O is chipped, left center. | 62—As B-1. |
| 13—As B-1. | 66—S is chipped in the middle. |
| 15—As B-1. | 67—As B-1. |
| 20—As B-1. | 72—As B-1 and 1 is damaged. |
| 21—As B-1 and 1 and 9 are spaced close. | 73—Bottom of O chipped, 2 is damaged. |
| 24—Heel of 9 is sliced off. | 74—As B-1, zero is damaged. |
| 26—O is open on top and chipped left. | 76—Bottom of S is sliced off. |
| 31—As B-1. | 80—As B-1. |
| 42—A white dot in the middle of S. | 81—As B-1. |
| 46—Middle of S chipped. | 84—Bottom of S broken. |
| 48—Top of 2 is thinner. | 89—As B-1, damaged zero. |
| 49—S sliced off, bottom. | 97—O damaged on top. |

Padělky Československých Poštovních Známek

Translated by Henry Hahn

Continued

5. The upper portion of the rudder is not straight, and lacks the distinguishable step.
6. The right portion of the lower propeller is rounded.
(Note: differing shape of the number 100).

Page 269

Airmail Stamps Hind Issue

Overprint on regular stamps of the Agriculture and Science issue of 1920.

250 / 400 h gray-brown

Overprint blue, in exceptional cases black

Validity: June 15, 1922-March 31, 1931.

(Catalog numbers listed)

Line perforated: 13¾.

Overprint performed by typography. Overprint dimensions: a) 26.7 mm
b) 4.5 mm

Illustration

Genuine

1. The pilot's head is joined to the wing by means of a vertical line, the head contains a white, often barely distinguishable, dot.
2. The supporting strut pierces four lines in the wing.
3. Beneath the white area in the rudder there are 3 dots.
4. The wheels in the landing gear are oval, the heavier left side contains a notch on the inside.
5. The upper portion of the rudder forms a step.
6. The right side of the lower propeller is rounded.

Page 270

Counterfeit of overprint A (to defraud collectors)

250 / 400 h gray-brown

Overprint light blue.

On first sight, the most obvious feature of the counterfeited overprint is its light blue color. The design contains significantly differing numbers. Also, the pilot's head is not joined to the wing by means of a line. A further distinguishing feature is the design of the landing gear, attention to which is called in point 4. The counterfeiter used mainly inexpensive used stamps.

Overprint performed by typography. Overprint dimensions: a) 26.5 mm
b) 4.7 mm

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The pilot's head is not joined to the wing by means of a line, the white dot is lacking.
2. The supporting strut terminates just beneath the outline of the wing.
3. Beneath the white area in the rudder there are four dots.
4. The landing gear wheels are round, the notches are lacking.
5. The upper portion of the rudder does not form a step.
6. The right portion of the lower propeller is not rounded.
(Note: differing number 250.)

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Page 271

Counterfeit of overprint B (to defraud collectors)
250/ 400 h gray-brown — violet overprint

The counterfeiter did not attain the right color, which, in comparison with the genuine, has a dark-violet hue. In examining the design, we find a number of basic differences, particularly at points 3 and 5. Also, the upper portion of the number 2 is considerably different. In this instance as well, the counterfeiter utilized mainly used stamps.

Overprint performed by typography. Overprint dimensions: a) 26.8 mm
b) 4.7 mm

Illustration**Counterfeit**

1. The pilot's head is joined to the wing by means of a thin line, but (the head) does not contain the white dot.
2. The supporting strut reaches the outline of the wing.
3. The white area in the rudder is of irregular shape, the dots are lacking.
4. The landing gear wheels are round, without notches.
5. The upper portion of the rudder is wavy, and does not form a step.
6. The right portion of the lower propeller is bowed to the inside.

Page 272

Counterfeit of overprint C (to defraud collectors)
250 / 400 h gray-brown — overprint grayviolet

This type of counterfeited overprint lacks perfection. The airplane outlines are not exact and incomplete. The color of the overprint is gray-violet in comparison with the blue of the genuine. The counterfeits occur mainly on used stamps.

Overprint performed by typography. Overprint dimensions are: a) 26.5 mm
b) 4.6 mm

Illustration**Counterfeit**

1. Malformed head virtually reaches the wing, the dot is lacking.
2. The supporting strut terminates at the outline of the wing.
3. White dots are lacking.
4. The landing gear wheels are egg-shaped and unnotched.
5. The upper portion of the rudder forms a deeper step.
6. The right portion of the lower propeller is not rounded (usually incomplete).

(Note: differing shape of number 25c.)

Page 273**Airmail Stamps IIIrd Issue**

The major portion of the IIIrd issue of airmail stamps is line perforated 13%. In the year 1936 there appeared individual denominations line perforated 12%, or with mixed perforation 13% x 12%, 12% x 13%. The differences were not intentional, and the stamps were on sale at various post offices.

Illustration

Illustration

Illustration

Illustration

Illustration

Illustration

World-wide catalogs do not always distinguish the details of the special perforations of the IIIrd issue of airmail stamps, and we therefore present this information, as described and priced in the POFIS catalogue of 1962.

	A	B	C
	line 12¼	line 12¼x13¼	line 13¼x12¼
7 50 h gray-green	6		
7 1 Kč carmine red	70	7	
9 2 Kč moss green	44		24
11 4 Kč steel blue	10		
12 5 Kč brown	1800		
14 20 Kč lilac	10		800

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Forgeries

Forgeries were made from unfinished, imperforate stamps or by reperforation of selected copies with wide margins. Particular attention must be paid to the two most expensive denominations, 5 Kč line perforated 12¼ and 20 Kč 13¼x12¼. We illustrate the genuine 20 Kč (Pofis no. L. 14 C) and an example of forged perforation.

Illustration

Genuine

1. The shape of individual perforations and the location of perforation openings in opposite vertical and horizontal lines is in phase (see for example the ninth wide perforation along the vertical line and the thirteenth narrow perforation along the horizontal line).
2. Above the perforation openings there are pressure traces due to the needle.

Illustration

Forgeries (made from the stamp Pofis no. L 14A)

1. The vertical perforation is the original, line 12¼. The horizontal lines are altered to the dimension 13¼, individual perforations and perforation openings are not in phase (see opposite wide and narrow perforation).
2. Forged perforation of horizontal rows perforated 13¼ do not contain needle pressure traces.

Special Delivery Stamps

Pages 275-277

(Herein follow Russian, English, French, German and Spanish translations)

Page 278

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

2 h red-violet

The stamps were issued for payment of additional surcharge for special (speedy) delivery of printed matter. Later they were also used as regular additional franking. Printed by the Czech Graphic Union on yellowish paper. A small issue (12,500) singles were printed on white paper. These stamps are frequently forged by chemical discoloration. The gum is somewhat yellowish. The design, in spite of minor variances attributable to typography, is clear, outlines of details are smooth and fine. Numerous color shades.

The paper appears bright, yellowish in color when viewed under ultraviolet light. The color of the stamp appears reddish-violet.

Validity: Feb. 10, 1919-April 30, 1921.

Catalog numbers listed.

Typography.

Design dimensions: 27x19 mm

Illustration

Genuine

1. At the center of the decorative border beneath the number 2 there appears a white dot inside a circle.
2. Lined background is distinguishable.
3. The eye of the left dove is round in shape with a circle at the center.

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Counterfeit (to defraud collectors)

2 h brown-red

The counterfeiter made dies from two stamps in order to counterfeit gutter pairs.

As a result of unequal etching, the two stamps differ from one another, particularly in the shading of the background. A common and principal feature is the coarseness of the design. The paper is heavier, creamy yellow, with a distinguishable network apparent by transmitted light. The gum is white, and spread thinly.

When viewed under ultraviolet light, the paper appears dark gray. The color of the design appears brown-red.

Typography

Design dimensions: 27x19 mm

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. At the center of the decorative frame under the number 2, the dot inside the circle is lacking.
2. The lined background is lacking or consists of irregular areas.
3. The eye of the left dove is open at the top, and the inner circle is filled and irregular.

Page 280

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

Designer: Alfons Mucha

2 h—gutter pair red-violet

Vertical gutter pairs originate from uncut double sheets. Frequently there appear major or minor traces of folds. The vertical gutter pairs are rather rare, from which fact it is apparent that only a small number reached post office sales.

Illustration

Genuine

1. At the center of the decorative frame under the number 2 there is a white dot inside a circle.
2. The distance between the stamps—across the gutter—is 37.5 mm.
3. The control numbers of the individual vertical rows bear the numbers: -.20, -.40, -.60, -.80, 1.—, 1.20, 1.40, 1.60, 1.80, 2.—.

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Counterfeit of gutter pair (to defraud collectors)

2 h brown-red

The counterfeiter prepared a gutter pair from two original stamps, from which a die was produced by photochemical means. Each genuine sheet has 10 control numbers of vertical rows; the counterfeiter selected the control number -.40. As a result of his ignorance of the genuine gutter pair, he chose a smaller distance between the two stamps, as a result of which he greatly facilitated identification of the counterfeit.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. At the center of the decorative frame, under the number 2, the white dot inside the circle is lacking.
2. The distance between the two stamps—across the gutter—is 32.8 mm.
3. Only the control number -.40 is known.

Page 282

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

5 h light green, also grass green

As in the case of the 2 h denomination, the 5 h stamp exhibits similar variations which are peculiar to typography. The paper is yellowish, the gum smooth, and a small portion of the issue (12,500 singles) was printed on white paper, the latter being frequently forged by chemical discoloration of the less expensive stamps printed on yellow paper. Perforated stamps were never issued.

Under ultraviolet light the light green stamp appears olive green, and the dark green appears black-green.

Validity: February 10, 1919-July 31, 1924.

Catalog numbers listed.

Typography.

Design dimensions: 27x19 mm.

Illustration

Genuine

1. At the center of the decorative border beneath the denomination numeral 5 there is a white dot.
2. The eye of the left dove does not contact the outline of the head.
3. The entire design is executed by means of fine lines.

Page 283

Counterfeit (to defraud collectors)

5 h yellow-green

The counterfeit was produced by the same source as that of the previously described 2 h denomination, and by similar means. The paper is heavier, creamy yellow, a network is visible by means of transmitted light, and the gum is spread thinly.

Under ultraviolet light the paper appears dull, dark gray. The color of the stamp is dark olive.

Typography.

Design dimensions: 27x19 mm.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. At the center of the decorative border, under the number 5, the white dot is lacking.
2. The eye of the left dove merges with the outline of the head.
3. The entire design is executed by means of heavy lines.

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SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

Designer: Alfons Mucha

5 h—gutter pair light green

Typography

Illustration

Genuine

1. At the center of the decorative border, beneath the denomination numeral 5 there appears a white dot.
2. The distance between the two stamps—across the gutter—is 47.5-48 mm.
3. The control numbers of individual vertical rows bear the numbers: -.50, 1.—, 1.50, 2.—, 2.50, 3.—, 3.50, 4.—, 4.50, 5.—.

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Counterfeit of gutter pair (to defraud collectors)

5 h yellow-green

The counterfeiter, as in the instance of the 2 h denomination, similarly pro-

duced a die for the counterfeiting of the gutter pair. As a result of uneven engraving, the two stamps differ somewhat, particularly in the shading of the background. A common and principal feature is the coarseness of the design and significantly shorter distance between the stamps. The paper is heavier, creamy yellow, and a distinct network is apparent under transmitted light. The gum is white and thinly applied.

Typography.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. At the center of the decorative border, under the number 5, the white dot is lacking.
2. The distance between the two stamps—across the gutter—is 31 mm.
3. The control number 2.50 is known to exist.

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SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

Designer: Alfons Mucha

10 h bronze-brown

Validity: December 20, 1920-July 31, 1924

Catalog numbers listed.

Imperforate

Typography.

Design dimensions: 27x19 mm.

The printing of the stamps is executed by the same means as those of the 2 h and 5 h denominations, on yellowish paper. A small quantity appeared on white paper. In the instance of the latter, the date of issue, validity, and quantity issued are not known. Discoloration of the yellowish paper is achievable by means of light and chemical means, resulting in white paper; such means being frequently used by forgers. Discolored paper is frequently not distinguishable on first sight, and it is hence necessary to recall the following distinguishing features of the genuine:

Illustration

Genuine

1. The genuine 10 h denomination on white paper, when viewed by means of transmitted light, exhibits a distinct network pattern (screening). Stamps on yellow paper lack this screening. Thus, the genuine stamp on white paper must have the characteristic screening, which, however, is typical only of the 10 h denomination. (Pofis number Sp. N 3.)
2. As a result of chemical treatment of the paper, the color is also decomposed to some extent and thus hides some of the details of the printing; thus the outlines may lack clarity and become smeared. These signs are particularly important in examining stamps of the 2 h and 5 h denomination on white paper, because the paper of these denominations lacks the screening.

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10 h Special Delivery (genuine), yellow or discolored paper

Illustration

1. Uniform network (screening) lacking.

Illustration

1. Paper contains uniform network (screening).

Pages 289-292

(Russian, English, French, German and Spanish text)

Page 293

NEWSPAPER STAMPS—DOVE IN FLIGHT

Designer: Jaroslav Benda

10 h brown-red

Counterfeits of current newspaper stamps probably do not exist; however, an incentive in terms of easy disposal and profit to counterfeiters was a miniature sheet, printed for advertising purposes at the philatelic exhibit in Bratislava. The 10 h denomination in the miniature sheet corresponds to the regular sheet issue, and can, upon removal from the sheet be considered a counterfeit of the single stamp. We therefore also describe the original stamp.

When viewed by means of ultraviolet light, the paper appears clearly white, and the color of the stamp appears red-brown.

Validity: April 30, 1937-November 30, 1939.

Catalog numbers of miniature sheet listed.

Typography.

Design dimensions: 18.5x18.5 mm.

Illustration

Genuine

1. Stylized linden blooms consist of five fine, mutually converging lines.
2. The inside termination of the upper wing forms a circle with an extended thin line.
3. Above the letter h there appear two small white dots, sometimes inked over, but nevertheless identifiable.

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Newspaper miniature sheet of Bratislava.

During the course of the national philatelic exhibition in Bratislava, from October 24, 1937 through November 2, 1937, there appeared an issue of the current 10 h newspaper denomination in revised, miniature sheet form. Upon this sheet, measuring 150x165 mm, were located 25 single stamps (5x5) of the 10-h denomination, and beneath them appeared a two-line title:

Tištěno Na Celostátní Výstavě Poštovních Známeč

Bratislava 1937

Illustration

Genuine

1. All hooks upon the letters š and ě are separated from the letters.
2. All stamps have identical designs of the wing.
3. In the title Československá, the inside of the first letter e forms a dot.

Page 295

Counterfeit A—stamp removed from the miniature sheet (to defraud collectors)
10 h light brown-red

The first counterfeits of the Bratislava newspaper miniature sheet appeared in Prague as early as December, 1937. Dealers, in anticipation of high profit, sold (the counterfeits) at philatelic meetings. However, as a result of timely notification by the Ministry of Posts, the counterfeiter was quickly apprehended and prosecuted. In the course of a house search, a large number of counterfeited Pushkin miniature sheets was confiscated as well (catalogue USSR, Pofis number A 392-393). It will not escape a collector's experienced eye that the color of the counterfeit is feint, the print goes through the stamp, and the paper and gum differ. The principal distinguishing feature, however, is its differing design of the linden blooms which are held in the dove's beak. When viewed by means of ultraviolet light, the paper appears slightly yellowish, and the color of the stamp appears light brown-red.

Typography.

Design dimensions: 18.5x18.5 mm.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The linden blooms consist of pentagonal stars.
2. The circle terminates in a short thick line, sometimes without the line.
3. The dots above the letter h are lacking.

Page 296

Counterfeit of miniature sheet A (to defraud collectors)

Illustration

Counterfeit (miniature sheet)

1. The hooks upon the letters š and ě are joined to the letters.
2. The first stamp has a so-called broken wing.
3. In the instance of the tenth and twenty-fourth stamp, the first letter e lacks the center dot.

Page 297

Counterfeit B—stamp removed from miniature sheet (to defraud collectors)

10 h dark brown-red

In the beginning of February 1939, a significant number of corrected counterfeits of the Bratislava newspaper miniature sheet were sold at Prague philatelic exchange meetings. As a result of immediate intervention by collectors, further dissemination of the counterfeits ceased, and the counterfeiters were apprehended.

The counterfeiter attempted to remove the error pointed out to him by collectors during the sale of the earlier counterfeits in 1938, in which task he partially succeeded. The counterfeit must therefore be considered dangerous. The paper is white, thinner, of feinter shade, the gum white, smooth and without gloss.

In the title: Tištěno na Celostátní Výstavě, the A in the word Celostátní lacks the accent line, which in the genuine is very distinct.

When viewed by ultraviolet light, the paper appears weakly yellowish, as in the instance of counterfeit A, and the design appears chocolate brown.

Typography.

Design dimensions: 18.5 mm x 18.5 mm.

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. Stylized stars representing lined blooms are corrected to lines, which are predominantly inked over at the center.
2. The circle is terminated either by or without a small line.
3. The dots above the letter h are lacking.

Page 298

Counterfeit of miniature sheet B (to defraud collectors)

Illustration

Counterfeit

1. The hooks upon the letters š and ě are joined to their respective letters.
2. In the word Celostátní there is an impression of an accent line above the letter A.
3. In the fifth stamp, in the title Československo, near the letter s there appears, to the right, a small, colored notch.
4. In the twentieth stamp, a small white line appears at the lower side of the dove's upper wing.
5. In the date 1937, the number 7 is located slightly higher.

Pages 299-304**POSTAGE DUE STAMPS**

Brief introductions—in Russian, English, French, Spanish and German, describe these provisional postage due stamps, both original and counterfeit.

(to be continued)

1	0	2	19	0	2	1	0		92	
11	0	0	SO	1	S		0			0
21	19	0	9	9		0	S			
31	S	0		0						0
41		S	S	S		S		0	S	S
51	0		S	SO	19	0	0	0	S	0
61	SO	0			S	19	S		0	2
71		0	0	0		SO	0		0	S
81	20	S		S					0	S
91			S			0	0		0	0

Plate B-3

The 26th stamp of this overprint has a white dot in the center of O, besides other defects.

The Hradčany values overprinted are:

Imperforate—50h. violet, 75h., 80h., 120h., 300h., 400h., 500h. and 1000h. blue overprint.

Perforated—5h., 200h. comb ($13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$), 50h. (comb $11\frac{1}{4}$).

To this group belongs the defect on 58th stamp appearing on 80h. value with damaged 9 (Padelky page 338).

Important defects on this plate are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1—Zero chipped inside. | 26—As B-2 and a white dot in O. |
| 2—Chipped O, damaged 2. | 27—Damaged S. |
| 3—1 and 9 damaged. | 31—As B-1 and B-2, damaged 1 and zero. |
| 4—As B-1 and B-2. | 39—Chipped O. |
| 5—Damaged 2. | 40—Bottom of zero is open. |
| 6—1 and zero damaged. | 42—As B-2, damaged 1. |
| 9—As B-2. | 43—S chipped, zero damaged. |
| 11—As B-2 and damaged 9. | 44—Damaged S. |
| 12—As B-2, O sliced off on top. | 46—As B-2. |
| 13—As B-2, top of O sliced off. | 48—As B-2. |
| 14—Damaged 1. | 49—As B-2, chipped S. |
| 15—As B-1 and B-2. | 50—As B-2, damaged zero. |
| 17—Damaged 9. | 51—O thinned top, damaged zero and 1. |
| 20—As B-2, damaged 0 and 9. | 53—Damaged S, 2 and zero, a dot in top of S. |
| 21—As B-2. | 54—S sliced off, O chipped. |
| 22—Top of O sliced off. | |
| 23—Damaged 9. | |
| 24—As B-2. | |

55—As B-2, damaged 9.
 57—S chipped, zero damaged.
 58—Chipped 9.
 59—Chipped S.
 60—As B-1 and B-2, damaged O.
 61—As B-2, damaged O and zero.
 62—As B-2.
 66—As B-2.
 67—As B-2.
 68—S chipped.
 69—Top of zero open.
 70—Damaged 2.
 72—As B-2, damaged 1.
 73—As B-2.

74—As B-2.
 76—As B-2, O damaged.
 77—Top of 9 open.
 79—Damaged O.
 80—As B-1 and B-2.
 81—As B-1 and B-2.
 82—S damaged left.
 84—As B-2.
 89—S chipped, damaged 2.
 94—S chipped, left.
 96—Zero damaged.
 97—As B-1, B-2.
 99—Chipped O.
 100—Chipped O, damaged zero.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	20	19		SO					SO
11	S		2	SO		S		2	
11		9	S	0		9		1920	S
31			2		O	O			
41							2		2
51	S	S	0	20	SO	19 0	S	S	S
61							S		
71	S	0			0		O	O	
81	S	1920				0			
91		S		S					

Plate C

This plate is not much different from the others (Padelky page 326), but closer to plate B, with the damaged letters replaced.

The plate was used to overprint the following Hradčany values:

Imperforate—60h., 75h., 80h., 120h., 200h., 300h., 400h., 500h., and 1000h blue overprint.

Perforated—30h., 60h. (comb 11¾).

A part of the printing in this group has an individual defect: (1 is moved over) on the 88th stamp on these values: 75h., 80h., 120h., 200h., 300h., 400h., and 1000h. blue overprint.

Important defects on this plate are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1—Zero is chipped inside, damaged 2. | 10—A dot in top of S, damaged O. |
| 2—2 is of a different face. | 11—A colored dot in top of S. |
| 4—A dot in S, O sliced off right. | 12—2 is broken. |

- 13—S and O sliced off.
 15—Top of S is damaged.
 17—2 is sliced off.
 21—9 chipped, left.
 22—Top of O is chipped, zero damaged left.
 24—Heel of 9 is sliced off.
 26—The date numerals are close spaced.
 29—S is chipped.
 32—2 is damaged.
 34—O chipped, left bottom.
 35—O chipped on top.
 46—2 is damaged, left.
 48—2 is thin on top.
 50—A white spot in the middle of S.
 51—Bottom of S broken.
 52—S is damaged left, zero damaged right.
- 53—2 and zero damaged.
 54—S is sliced off, O is chipped.
 55—A white dot in 1 and damaged 9 and zero.
 57—S is chipped, bottom left.
 59—Damaged S.
 68—S chipped bottom.
 71—S chipped top, zero damaged inside right.
 74—Zero damaged inside.
 76—O chipped inside.
 78—O chipped bottom, zero is thin, left.
 81—S is damaged, 1 and 9 are shifted up, 2 and zero close spaced.
 86—Zero damaged inside.
 92—S with a white spot, bottom.
 94—S sliced off, bottom right.

In this study of SO 1920 overprints I was aided by J. Weiss with his collection, K. Zach of Ostrava with sheet material, J. Kubik of Bohumin, Fr. Utrata of Mistek, L. Zavadil of Prerov, and J. Kalabis and O. Kubis of Ostrava. J. Kalabis, K. Zach and J. Filip aided with valuable advice and information.

JOHN KOZIK

We have just learned of the passing of member 562 John Kozik of Miami, Fla. The officers and members of the Society wish to express their sympathy to the family.

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EDITORIAL

Your Editor must apologize for his error in the designation of the September to December 1965 issues as belonging to Vol. XXVI and those of the January to April 1966 issues as belonging to Vol. XXVII. Please correct your copies to Vol. XXVII for the second half of the 1965 numbers and those from January 1966 on to Vol. XXVIII. Two members of our society contacted us regarding the error.

Constant favorable remarks about the frontpage illustrations make us feel we should have such an illustration as often as possible.

We had a very interesting trip this winter which took us to the house of George Blizil in Hollywood. This time however we encountered some difficulties in getting located on our way south when we reached southern Florida. The situation became so critical that we had to phone George asking permission to arrive at his home two days before the expected date. Much philately was discussed and we enjoyed seeing some other material we had had no opportunity to admire before. Upon our journey to the west coast we were happy to make the personal acquaintance of Mr. and Mrs. Osbourn, our Canadian member who has been spending his winters in St. Petersburg for the past few years. We had been planning to get together about six years ago but he was suddenly detained and could not keep his appointment. At that time he asked a friend of his to bring to our house his outstanding study of Austrian and Hungarian postmarks on the stamps of Czechoslovakia. Due to his illness we were unable to return this beautiful collection but now we shall be able to do so. We recall that many years ago Mr. Osbourn made a copy for us of his translation of Lindenberg's fine compilation of cancellations and we still very highly value that piece of work. The next day we had a chance to visit the Rosners there also. We had met Mr. Rosner previously in Chicago. This member helped the widow of our late Mr. Barry to dispose of much of his philatelic estate. Due to the fact that the southern states we wished to visit for some days proved to be too cool for us, we decided to drive directly to the Washington area. There member Vydra asked us to give a talk to the members of the Capitol Stamp Club and we visited his home that evening. Member Hahn (who drove us there), Krejci and Ruhoff were also present. A few days later we were at the home of member Hahn, where we met member Sandrik in addition to the other members mentioned before. In Henry's "philatelic" room we saw some fine items in his albums and Sandrik's quite interesting postal history material. We had the opportunity to see some of the carefully studied items of Ruhoff which he had with him. All in all it was a most enjoyable time for us and just too short!

The members in the Washington area expressed their interest in the formation of a Branch of the Society. We therefore carried their request to the Council for approval of such a Branch and gave this information to the President. The Council approved the application and we now have a new Branch which will surely be a very active one since those members have been meeting regularly for some time now. We hope that many in that area interested in Czechoslovak Philately will find their way to this Branch.

We express our sincere thanks to the members who decided to raise their membership status to that of sustaining as per list in this issue. In connection with this we wish to emphasize the necessity for slow-paying members to mail their dues in now. We shall not specify the amounts because they can be found in our specialist upon investigation. We wish only to say that soon no copies of the specialist will be forthcoming to those who have not paid their dues.

This month we will have our Society Dinner on the 27th, with an informal gathering at 6:30 and service at 7:30 and Convention on the 28th at 2:00 p.m.

We hope that our president will have heard from a number of members who to date have not indicated their intention to attend. At this writing, to our knowledge, 19 members will be at the dinner and it is expected that they will also attend our meeting. After the business meeting there will be an opportunity to hear an excellent speaker, Mr. John L. Briggs, Vice President of the Postal History Society of the Americas, who will show slides of 19th Century Hungary.

**LIST OF MEMBERS WHO RAISED THEIR MEMBERSHIP STATUS
TO SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP**

663 Francis J. Auermuller	212 Morris Lichtman
574 Robert E. Breeding	790 Dr. George Mandler
801 Richard W. Culin	789 A/1c Carl W. Probst
449 Pat L. Flynn	817 Homer V. Roberts
153 Leo Goldman	15 Dr. H. H. Smith
712 Dr. Ellis Haworth	537 Mirko L. Vondra
738 Gosta Hedbom	667 Joseph C. Voztek
754 Harold L. Keith	211 Emil E. Zaludek

We have now 54 paid up Sustaining Members.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 644 Karl J. Chudacek, c/o Eastern Air Lines Office, 150 King St., Suite 401, Toronto, Ont., Canada.
 478 Herbert Dube, 67 Front Street East, Toronto, Canada
 693 George Serchak, 28 Marwood No. Road, Port Washington, N. Y. 11050
 Member Alex McMillan lives in Auckland, New Zealand, and not in Auckland, Australia.

RESIGNED

Edward J. Broz, his entire collection was stolen.

NEW MEMBERS

- 842 Keith Villette, 309 3rd St., Lewiston, Idaho.
 843 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore B. Ruhoff, 2024 Parkway Drive, Laurel, Md.
 844 Edward Zika, V Bezovca 15, Plzeň, Czechoslovakia.
 845 Vladimir S. Walzel, 150-54 78th St., Flushing, N. Y. 11367.
 846 Ladislav Sedlarik, Boh. Martinu 719, Ostrava-Poruba, Czechoslovakia.

ATTENTION — MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Pursuant to Article III, paragraph 4, of the Constitution of our Society: Undersigned Members of the Council herewith nominate to HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Charter Member #42

W. L. RUSSELL, of Victoria, Australia

Member Russell has actively supported our Society for the past twenty-seven years.

He wrote numerous very fine articles for the Specialist.

He has always been ready and willing to take on an assignment whenever such was requested.

Finally, as a distinguished philatelist, he served on the Advisory Committee of his country's Postal Department for a number of years.

The Constitution requires a majority vote by the members of the Council. Each Council member will with his affirmative vote reflect credit on himself to honor this outstanding member-collector.

Send your vote to the Editor.

Frank J. Kosik, J. Stein,

L. M. Horechny, Wm. Reiner-Deutsch

Votes in favor already received from

G. B. Koplowitz, Emil J. Michaelson

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