

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official publication of the  Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Recipient of Silver Bronze Diploma Praga 1968

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Vol. XXX

September 1968

No. 285

PRAGA 1968 REPORT

By George A. Blizil

The 16-day World Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1968 was an extremely delightful philatelic experience. The organizing committee was jubilant over the 306,002 paid admissions. This was undoubtedly the largest stamp exhibition staged—anywhere. When the 300,000th ticket was sold to a local



Ing. Ladislav Dvořáček proudly displays the A. P. S. International Award for Philatelic Achievement before the 450 people attending the PRAGA 1968 Palmares banquet. Presentation was made by George A. Blizil, A. P. S. International Relations Committee Chairman. Dvořáček is President of the Czechoslovak Federation of Stamp Clubs and Chairman of the Exhibition Board.

collector, the committee showered him and his wife with philatelic gifts. The scene was recorded on film for T.V. and tape for the Czechoslovak radio.

The new president of Czechoslovakia, popular Ludvik Svoboda, presided at the inaugural ceremony on June 22. Lucien Bethelot, F.I.P. president, and Ing. Ladislav Dvořáček, president of the Czechoslovak Federation of Stamp Clubs, also addressed the large outdoor assembly on a sunny Saturday morning. The 44 Jurors from 34 countries were also guests of honor at the inaugural, along with ambassadors and consuls.

The International Grand Prix was given to Horst Knapp of West Germany for his 55-frame exhibit of Saxony. The National Grand Prix was awarded to Zdeněk Kvasnička of Prague for his beautiful 43-frame showing of Czechoslovakia. The Grand Prix in the F.I.P. Classe d'Honneur went to Pietro Provera (Italy) for his 65 frames of the most beautiful Austria-Lombardy Venetia ever assembled. Incidentally, each frame held 16 album pages.

The PRAGA Committee had the promised 10,000 frames erected in the huge 3-part exhibition hall (all on ground level) in the Julius Fucik Park. Only a few frames were left unfilled as a result of the usual late arrivals, last minute cancellations, etc. The Thematic and Youth exhibits were housed in the Sports Hall a short distance away. Four exhibition post offices, plus a mobile post bus, did a land-slide business selling PRAGA commemorative stamps and applying the nine different commemorative postmarks used various days of the exhibition.

The Italian postal administration reconstructed a miniature Italian village in a nearby building and a temporary post office where clerks applied still another postmark for favor cancellations.

The main exhibition hall was superbly decorated by Dr. Jan. Novotny, same architect responsible for the beautiful Czechoslovak pavillion at Montreal's EXPO '67. Quiet piped harpsichord or organ music was played throughout each day. This created a soothing effect on all viewing classic stamps. Lighter background music was played in the Youth and Thematic sections.

Two other comments on music: A special song, "Merci, Mr. Hill," was composed for PRAGA by Jan Seehak. It was available on 45 RPM records and the pleasing tune, in Czech and French, was sold out in 10 days. The other music comment was the fine band that played popular Czechoslovak tunes in front of the main exhibition hall on both weekends. The band is made up of 42 philatelists, all members of the Ostrava (Moravia) Philatelic Club. (How many U. S. stamp clubs have their own orchestra or band?).

PRAGA 1968 was probably the safest exhibition ever staged. A little more than 300 guards were on duty between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. each day. Half that number was on duty during off hours. In addition to this, six T.V. alert stations, with hidden cameras, were in operation. The security was tops and no irregularities or thefts occurred.

The government exhibits were contained in a downtown exhibition hall. It was worth viewing. The Swiss, West German and Swedish postal administration displays, as well as the U. S. P. O. D., attracted many admiring viewers. The background music in this building was recorded posthorn calls of early European countries. The sides of the exhibition area were furnished with choice pieces from various postal museums. These included ancient postal coaches, a collection of posthorns, original cancelling devices, an original Thurn & Taxis postal contract, etc. Needless to say, this area was well guarded also.

The 37th Congress of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie was held in the Karlstejn Castle (1348), located 35 miles from Prague. This, too, was a quaint and interesting all-day experience for George T. Turner, A. P. S.

Delegate, and this writer who served as Alternate Delegate. The American Philatelic Society was again commended for its "Black Blot" program. The Undesirable Issues Commission reported progress has been made in educating European catalog publishers to boycott undesirable issues . . . these include Yvert, Michel, Zumstein and Gibbons. A lengthy list of "black blots" was read, and included were ALL the issues of the Arabic States, as well as recent Paraguay.

Robert Lullin (Switzerland) was reelected F.I.P. General Secretary-Treasurer for a 3-year term. George Menzinsky (Sweden) was elected Vice President to fill an unexpired term. Johann Anreitter (Austria) was elected president of the Aerophilatelie Commission, filling a vacancy caused by the death of Mario Onofri (Italy). A new possible F.I.P. Category for postal stationery and stampless covers is being considered by a committee. A report is to be submitted to the 1969 Congress. Another postal history category is on the agenda for consideration. Cuba was admitted to F.I.P. membership by a close vote. Japan and Iran were elected to membership. A second Iceland Federation application for membership was denied, and Paraguay's application was again tabled. The EFIMEX committee was reprimanded for not keeping F.I.P. headquarters informed on progress and plans for its 1968 Mexico City exhibition.

The 1969 International Exhibition, with full F.I.P. patronage, was granted to Sofia, Bulgaria. Dates are May 31-June 8. The F.I.P. Congress is scheduled for June 10-12 in that city. The first official Youth Exhibition, JUVENTUS 69 (Luxembourg) received F.I.P. patronage for April 3-9. (The Junior Philatelic Society of America, an A.P.S. Unit) will take an active part in this Luxembourg event.

Future international stamp exhibitions, tentatively approved by F.I.P. are 1970—London (patronage), Spain and Portugal (auspices); 1971—Budapest (patronage), Italy and Japan (auspices); 1972—Belgium (patronage), West Germany and Sweden; 1976—Philadelphia (full patronage for international exhibition and F.I.P. Congress) for the bicentennial of U. S. The Congress lauded the A.P.S. for increasing its contribution to the F.I.P. treasury. Hungary, Italy and Poland also made increased contributions this past year.

The A.I.J.P. 2-day Congress in Prague was attended by 142 journalists from 22 countries. Six Americans were present. The largest delegation of 26 was from Czechoslovakia, followed by 14 from East Germany. Antonie van der Flier was elected A.I.J.P. General Secretary. Christian A. W. Heusdens (Holland) was elected Treasurer-West. President Pierre Seguy conducted the journalist congress agenda in an efficient manner. The A.I.J.P. Directory will soon be mailed to all contributing members.

Back to the PRAGA exhibition: 46 Americans exhibited. Ernest A. Kekar exhibited Egypt in the Court of Honor. George A. Blizil (Czechoslovakia) exhibited in the Class of Honor. In the competitive exhibits, no Americans received large gold medals. Two small golds went to J. J. Verner (for Czechoslovakia) and George Z. Lefton (Hungary). Five Vermeil medals went to Bernard A. Hennig (Danzig), Kurt Adler (Russian P. O.'s Abroad), Albert Kner (Hungary), Theodore Light (Afghanistan), and S. Ray (Sardinia Letter Sheets).

Silver medals: John Velek (Czechoslovakia), C. J. Pearce (Czechoslovakia), Ervin Brown (Hungary), Fred W. Speers (early Russian airmail), Joseph Kocheisen (Zeppelin-post), Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch (Czech Fieldpost), and Leon Hyzen (U. S. Locals and Carriers).

Silver-Bronze medals: H. J. Stromberg (Estonia), Dr. Fritz Rosenberg (Early Germany), Arthur Feilen (Germany), Dr. Fritz Rosenberg (Russia

Inflations), Fred W. Speers (Russian Romanov), Dr. Herbert Pollack (Ukraine), Alfred Szebel (DO-X Flights), Wolfgang Fritzsche (Catapult Flights, plus Special Prize), B. F. Stevers (Mexico), and Dr. G. B. Smith (U. S. 3c 1851's).

Bronze medals to Americans: J. Vondrak (Austria Newspaper stamps), Fred A. Schmidt (100 Years North German Lloyd), Stanley C. Jersey (New Hebrides), Alex Rendon (Bolivia), Leo J. Harris (Ecuador), R. H. Thompson (U. S.), Stanley C. Jersey (British Solomon Islands), and George Kunzmann (Germany).

Five Americans received Diplomas: "Walter Brooks (France), Frank J. Berger (HOP'S of Germany), Austin Dulin (HOP's of Germany), Shirley Johnson (WWII Propaganda issues), and Frank J. Kovarik (Czechoslovakia).

Thematic Awards to Americans: A. A. Keir, bronze (Stamp Centenaries), Mrs. Jana Sterba, Bronze (Lions Clubs), L. Pieczara, diploma (Space), A. Kleintot, diploma (Space), and Dr. John Jakes, diploma (History Book).

The two Americans in the Youth Class: J. A. Messersmith (Fabulous Flights), and J. J. Hollenback, Jr. (Egypt).

In the Literature Class there were 229 entries, 29 of which were from U.S.A. Among the American winners were: AMERICAN PHILATELIST (A.I.J.P. Silver Diploma with felicitations), PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW (A.I.J.P. Silver Diploma), POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL (A.I.J.P. Vermeil Diploma with felicitations), AUSTRALIAN CHIT CHAT (A.I.J.P. Silver Diploma), AMERICAN FIRST DAY COVER MAGAZINE (A.I.J.P. Bronze Diploma), CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST (A.I.J.P. Diploma of Silver-Bronze), LINN'S WEEKLY (A.I.J.P. Silver Diploma), GIBBONS-WHITMAN STAMP MONTHLY (A.I.J.P. Bronze Diploma), S. P. A. JOURNAL (A.I.J.P. Silver Diploma), AMERICAN AIRPOST JOURNAL (A.I.J.P. Silver Bronze Diploma), and Germany FAKES & FORGERIES (F.I.P. Bronze Medal)

During the 16-day event the weather was perfect. Only one half day of rain and the temperature reached the low 90's several days . . . and no air-conditioning. The coolest place? You guessed it—in the exhibition halls.

In conclusion, this correspondent is of the opinion that PRAGA 1968 was the biggest and best international ever staged to date. Everything was just about perfect and impressive, including the release of 1,000 homing pigeons at the formal closing ceremonies on July 7. The PRAGA organizing committee was cordial and gracious to all visitors, including members of the Jury and Samuel Ray, hard working U. S. Commissioner. Our A. P. S. delegation renewed its contacts abroad and we Americans were favorably received everywhere. We saw groups of Russian soldiers in Prague, but they were only tourists—gawking at the beauty of the city and the exhibition, just like the rest of us. There was a concern in Prague that the Russians were keeping troops in Czechoslovakia to support the Kremlin's opposition of the more liberal democratic policies of the nation's new reform communist regime. There was a "new look" in the country—as well as a renewed and friendly spirit. There was not the slightest tinge of politics, however, evident at the exhibition.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Helen Spiel, 442 North Hambden St., Chardon, Ohio 44024

NEW MEMBER

878 Eric Nuttall, 315 Underlane, Plympton, Plymouth, Devon, England

POSTAL STATIONERY COLUMN
Wolfgang Fritzsche

The issue of commemorative postal stationery, picture postcards, special covers and aerograms dedicated to the World Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1968:

1. 8 commemorative picture postcards depicting Prague architecture and Karlštejn Castle in uniform graphic design, colors grey and red. The postcards are marked with a 30 h stamp with a picture of Prague, designed by K. Vodák, who also designed the pictures on the postcards. The pictures and stamp are printed by offset print. The cards also bear an inscription indicating the subject of the picture plus the official emblem and name of the exhibition in the Czech language. Price of the postcard, 35h.

2. 8 commemorative picture postcards, the first three depicting reproductions of the design (not executed) for the first Czechoslovak stamp (1918) by Alfons Mucha and printing proofs of stamps designed by V. B. Brunner and J. Benda. The other five postcards bear reproductions of stamps issued in the years 1948 to 1965, with accompanying text in the Slovak language, all eight postcards bear the official emblem and name of the exhibition and all are marked with a 30h stamp as in the foregoing instance (see 1). The stamp and exhibition emblem are printed in red, the picture and text in grey. The postcards are printed by offset print and were designed by Karel Vodák. Price of the postcard, 35h.

3. Special exhibition cover marked with a 60h stamp designed and engraved by J. Herčík after the historical engraving by B. Werner. The stamp picture shows the courtyard of the Prague Castle and is printed by flat recess print in blue-grey. Printed on the cover is the official emblem and name of the exhibition, colored red. The text is in the Czech language. The cover was designed and engraved by J. Herčík. Size is 160x95 mm. Price of the cover is 1.— Kčs.

2. Special exhibition cover, unstamped, with picture of the new buildings at Prague Ruzyň Airport on the left. The picture is printed by flat recess print in blue. The cover also bears the official emblem and name of the exhibition in Slovak language. The cover was designed and engraved by J. Herčík. Price, 50h.

3. Aerogram marked with the PRAGA 1968 stamp depicting the city of Prague—designed by J. Lukavský and engraved by J. Herčík. The stamp, denomination 1.20 Kčs, is printed by flat recess print in blue, dimensions 40x50 mm. Printed on the left side of the aerogram is the official emblem and name of the exhibition—colored red. The text is in two language versions: Czech—French and Slovak—French. Price, 1.40 Kčs.

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EDITORIAL

Members will note from the article by our International Secretary George Blizil that our Specialist was awarded a silver bronze diploma at Praga '68. It was indeed a pleasure to hear of the National Grand Award given to the entry of our old friend Zdeněk Kvasnička and the small Gold Medal to our collaborator J. J. Verner who also received a beautiful Czech crystal in appreciation for the symposium he staged during the Show. Our honorary member Ladislav Dvořáček received fine recognition for services rendered to philately. You will also note that the Postal History Journal of which we are one of the editors was given the highest award again.

Last but not least we wish to mention two other members of our Editorial Board who were given fine recognition at the Show. C. J. Pearce received a silver medal and Wolfgang Fritzsche a silver bronze medal with a special prize. Diplomas were awarded to members Dr. John H. Jakes and Frank J. Kovarik. Our heartiest congratulations to all!

An important auction was held by Apfelbaum of Philadelphia and we are reporting the prices realized at that auction.

An interesting book was published by the Federation of Czechoslovak Philatelists on the Postmarks of the transition periods between 1918 and 1947. The book is an abbreviated form of that of Leitenberger but of course it has in addition the years after the second world war. Our correspondent Mr. Jaroslav Ježek has a foreword to this volume. If any should be interested in the book, which is in Czech and German languages we should be happy to secure copies for them. However we do not know the price of it and would be willing to inquire if the response to this were sufficiently large.

Enclosed, members will find the revised Constitution, including the last amendments which were voted on favorably by the members. Mr. L. M. Horechny was good enough to have it printed at his expense.

It is truly sad to hear of the passing of old friends and supporters of our Society and the Czechoslovak Specialist. Osbourn, Russell and Mrňák are gone from our midst. All have been very active at some time in writing for our publication. Osbourn translated many articles from the Czech language and Russell wrote many original articles for us. Mrňák was always ready with his advice regarding items submitted to him for his expert opinion and he wrote many articles for us which were translated by Jerry Verner. Honorary member Mrňák passed away at the beginning of the Exhibition and we understand that a very impressive Hussite funeral ceremony was held in Prague. Another member, H. H. Wolleson was killed in an automobile accident.

Much knowledge is gone with the departure of those mentioned above and their memory will remain with all of us. There is developing a group of young collectors interested in the serious study of our specialty and we are glad to note that there are some such young people in Czechoslovakia also. Since according to the old saying, "no one is indispensable" we earnestly hope these progressive young collectors will continue the efforts of the ones who have the job of carrying on the work at present.

Our collection of Field Post 1918-20 was given a silver medal. Considering the statement by many that this particular field does not have appeal for judges we must assume that the award was adjudged because of the way this collection was set up. We presented a story of the campaign in Slovakia. First of all that was the only way we felt we could enjoy assembling the material and secondly we have the desire to give some ideas to other collectors of similar items. Apparently we are succeeding since we received a letter from an outstanding collector viewer who expressed his decision to talk to other

collectors about our approach from the angle of postal and general history. May we here congratulate the Praga Exhibition Committee for its promptness in returning the entries. We received our material on July 22, 1968.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

OUR CIRCUIT MANAGER WOLFGANG FRITZSCHE IS IN NEED OF MATERIAL.

IN MEMORIAM

#42—W. L. Russell

#66—C. H. Osbourn
Jan Mrňák

#803—H. H. Wolleson

NEW YORK BRANCH JUNE DINNER MEETING

This was a most successful affair with 28 members and guests participating. As usual we had an excellent meal at the Praha restaurant, where our new member Mr. Hiller treated every diner to either wine or beer. We appreciated this fine gesture by our member who also commented highly about our publication. There was a brief speech by Branch Chairman Stein who called on the Editor to say a few words. The Editor emphasized that there will be an exhibition of the Branch at the Collectors Club on October 26th in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Republic. As usual this will be a show without competition or auction either, since no financial transactions are permitted at the Collectors Club. If there is a member interested to exhibit material for just one frame we should gladly accept it from any one of you. Let us know promptly since final arrangements will be made at the September meeting of the Branch on September 26th.

PUBLICATION OF 'HJMR PRICED GUIDE TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE' ANNOUNCED

In the past 125 years philately has produced a vast body of literature on every aspect of stamps, covers, postal history, and related fields, and collectors in ever increasing numbers are turning to the literature as a means of broadening their knowledge in order to gain greater enjoyment and appreciation of their hobby.

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The PRICED GUIDE TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE has been organized for rapid and easy reference. It is fully indexed and includes a special 24 page section, which indexes the hundred of valuable articles and full scale

philatelic studies which are to be found in the 30 volumes of the Billig's Philatelic Handbooks which are owned and distributed by the HJMR Co.

In order to make the GUIDE readily available to all collectors and dealers interested in philatelic literature, a nominal price of \$1.00, postpaid, has been established for the publication, and this amount is deductible from the first purchase of \$3 or more for any of the literature included in the GUIDE.

Copies of the First Edition of the PRICED GUIDE TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE are available from HJMR Co., P. O. Box 2368, Miami Beach, Florida 33140.

CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST
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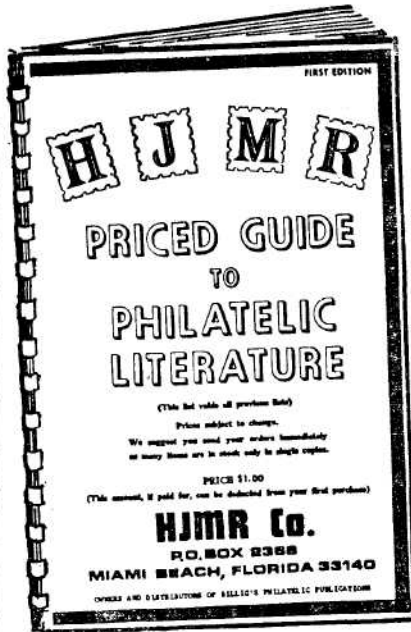
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CZECHOSLOVAKIA — EARL P. L. APFELBAUM AUCTION
April 1968

★	1918 Scout Stamps 10h and 20h Michel #I-II, 3a og+1 ea tied small piece, F-VF (cat Mi 250M+) -----	22.00
★✉	Scout Post 10h and 20h, ea of (gum creases) and VF used on small piece; also VF small cover with 10h tied -----	28.00
★	Revolutionary Ovpt set of 21 "CESKOSLOVENSKA/STATNI POSTA' & shield (on Austria), og, F-VF exc hinge remnants	40.00
★	1919-25 43a, 78-80, 104 B133-136, F ave. og -----	7.00
★	1925 2k 101B, F, og -----	16.00
★	Pres. Masaryk 1k 102, VF, og -----	13.00
★○SH	1934 Souv. sheets 200a unused, 201a neat H/S canc on 4 stamps only; selvages faulty, stamps VF (also inc 1 folder) (figured as 15 ea 200b and 201b) -----	60.00
★○SHWH	1937-58 Souv. or min. sheets 239(26), 251(30), 292a(11), 793 (38), 877(19), P26(34), F-VF, all unused exc 877 and (35) 793	28.00
★WH	1945-59 307-309(8), 849-853(20), 887-889(30), 905-907(30); VF og	14.00
★	1957-64 38 sets bet 801-806/1241-1246 and C49-50/57-58, F-VF og	14.00
★WH	1961-65 1080(10), 1121-1122(16), 1339-1344(15); VF, og -----	20.00
★WH	1965 1254-1360 (14 sets), F-VF, og -----	10.00
○	1919 Semipostal B1, 5, 7, 11 and 13 vars. invtd ovpts, light canc., F-VF, unlisted -----	11.00
○	B2, 7 and 8 vars, invt ovpts, light canc, F-VF, unpriced -----	11.00
★	1k and 4k B17 and 20A, FVF, og (signed Gilbert) -----	16.00
★	3k B19A, F, og. (signed Gilbert) -----	67.50
○	B19A, light canc, corner crease and somewhat discolored, rare (signed Gilbert) -----	18.00
★	10k B21A, VF, og (signed Gilbert) -----	40.00
✉	B21A, F, tied F cover (signed Gilbert) -----	56.00
★	B21A var. invtd ovpt, VF, og (signed Gilbert), rare -----	80.00
★	2k B22 var, invtd ovpt, F, og (Signed Mrnak) -----	21.00
★	4k B24 var, partial doubling of ovpt, F, og, rare (sig. Gilbert)	1350.00
★	B32, og (signed Mrnak); B33 og, small piece at R margin punched out (by ovpt slug?) (signed Gilbert and Nemeč) -----	30.00
★○	B3738 og (slightly disturbed) (signed Gilbert), B38 light canc F	80.00
★	1925 B137-139, F-VF, og -----	34.00
★	B137-139, F-VF, og -----	18.00
★	B137-139, F, og -----	12.00
★	1926 B140-143, F-VF, og -----	9.00
★	B140-143, F-VF, og -----	14.00
★	B140-143, F, og -----	9.00
★	1920 Airmail C1-3, og (signed Gilbert), VF exc minor crease C1	6.00
★	C4a slight wrinkles, C5a small thin; both og and look VF -----	8.50
★	C5a and 6, perf. 14x13½, F, og -----	16.00
✉WH	1946-47 24k C25, abt 220, ea tied to cover (mostly 1st Flt.) F	32.00
PE	Accum Proofs, Essays and printer's waste; over 250 items inc multiples, trial colors and papers, ovpts, etc, mostly 1918-20 period and VF -----	100.00
✉	Postal Stationery Accum abt 100 Austrian covers, entires or postal cards, most with Czech post or recvg mkgs, nice var, F ave	29.00
★○✉	Coll and accum several hundred, many matched sets of views, strong in WW II Mily cards (most unlisted and scarce), much dupl, mostly F-VF -----	50.00
★○	1919-39 Revenue Mounted accum over 950 items (inc blks and Boh.-Mor.) wide var inc subtypes and cancels, mostly F-VF	

	exc some unused stuck to pages -----	40.00
★○	BOH. & MOR. 1939-41 Specialized group bet 27/33, 40, 42, 53; abt 575 sgls, ea with pl no. or star, var pos and types, most unused, og, some stuck together or to page -----	80.00
★○	31-38, 42, 43-48, 52, 53A, 53C; abt 475 sgls, prs or blks, each with sheet margin and plate star(s), specialized by pos. and types, most unused, og, some stuck together or to page -----	70.00
★○	1939-43 32/61, B13-14, P2, O1/22; abt 410 sgls, prs or blks., ea with sheet margins and pl no. or star(s), specialized by pos and types, most unused, og, some stuck together or to page --	80.00
★○	1939-40, 33-39, 48; abt 250 sgls, prs or blks, ea with sheet margin and plate star(s), specialized by pos. and types, most unused, og, some stuck together or to page -----	70.00
★○	BOHEMIA & MORAVIA, SLOVAKIA—1939-45 Coll practically cpl, hundreds of items inc dupl and position multiples, blks, etc, some stained or stuck down, many FVF -----	30.00
★	1939-44 Few hundred sgls, multiples, etc., most in sets inc Boh. & Mor. 1-19 and Slovakia B27a, F-VF -----	16.00
☒	SLOVAKIA—1939 2-23, the set tied on 4 matched covers by Bratislava pmks (10 Apr 39), VF, rare on cover (sign Mrnak)	50.00
★○	1939-42 18 pl no. sgls or prs (8 used), very scarce group inc No. 33 and 57 used and 18 (stuck to page), mostly F -----	23.00
★SH	CZECHOSLOVAKIA—1939 Sudetenland ovpt "Karlsbad/1.x19.38/ (swastika)" on souv. sheet 239, og, VF exc remnants of mounting corners adhere -----	25.00
★○	Misc accum abt 190 Germany or Hungary used in Czech, errors and var., pl no. and pos. pieces, etc., mostly F-VF exc some unused stuck to pages -----	40.00
★○	1918-65 Coll abt 525 diff inc many pictorials, F-VF -----	13.00
★○	1918-20 Coll. 1/53, B1-129, Dues, etc., hundreds of items, semi-specialized inc provisionals, Czech Legion, many better values (inc 43a, 45a and 47a all signed Gilbert), generally F -----	48.00
★○	1920-39 Coll hundreds 61/256, B130/153 semi-specialized with many tab and gutter multiples, etc., some stuck down or stained, most og and F -----	26.00
★○	1920-45 Specialized group pl no. sgls (a few multiples), mostly unused and better 65/285, C18, var pl nos., pos and types inc many scarce items; over 500, many stuck to pages -----	50.00
★	1937-57 Few hundred mostly diff bet 239/405, C7/46 and newspapers inc 2 No. 292a, C7-35 and many better sets, F-VF, og.	15.00
★○SH☐	1937-63 Coll souv. sheets and panes of pictorials, abt 80 items, most og and F-VF, a few stained or stuck down -----	34.00
★○	1945-50 Semi-specialized coll 256A/437, B154/169, hundreds inc tab and gutter multiples, mostly mint and F-VF a few stuck down or stained -----	21.00
★	1950-61 Few hundred mostly diff bet 406/1053 most in sets inc No. 719 perf and imperf and other better items, F-VF, og, NH	25.00
★○	1951-56 Semi-specialized coll hundreds 438/780 inc blks and souv. sheets, some stuck down or stained, most og and F-VF -----	23.00
★○☐	1957-59 Coll 781/954, hundreds inc souv. sheets, most og inc sigls and blks of 4 or larger, some stuck down, mostly F-VF -----	29.00
★☐	1960-62 Coll hundreds 955/1149, C49-50; og blk and sgl of most, a few stuck down, mostly F-VF -----	40.00
★☐	1963-67 Coll hundreds 1150/1480, og blk and sgl of most, a few stuck down, mostly F-VF -----	22.00

★○SH☒WH	Accum in carton; covers (inc FD, spec. event and 1st flt), sou. sheets (cat abt \$250), tab and gutter pieces (cat Michel abt 700M), E. Silesia, dupl. in circuit and stockbks, etc; some un- used stuck together or to pages, otherwise mostly F-VF -----	85.00
★○PE☒	Balance of coll plus dupl inc covers, mixed franking, pmks (inc Zionist Cong. 1921, also WW II, nice group of proofs and essays No. 61-63 and many others; interesting and worthwhile lot, generally F -----	50.00
★○WH	Huge lot collector's dupl sorted on stockpages, ten of thousands, semi-specialized in early issues, mostly common but a real find for the specialist -----	48.00
★○田WH	Large accum sheets, part sheets and large blks, mostly com- mon but inc 380-382 and other better values in quantity, some stuck together, most are F-VF -----	8.50
★WH	Accum many hundreds in glassines, strong in recent pictorials and airs, other etter values, wide var, most in sets and F-VF, og	80.00
★WH	Accum many hundreds, mostly 1937-49 inc 307-309, 311-314, C19-27 and other better items in quantity, wide var., some stuck together, mostly F-VF, og -----	60.00
★WH	Accum hundreds of tab or gutter multiples (inc Boh. & Mor.), og, many F-VF, some stuck together -----	50.00
★WH	1929-46 Accum many hundreds bet 161/300A inc No. 163(19), 177(abt 40), and other F-VF, og better values; some others stuck together, mostly F-VF -----	48.00
★WH	Accum nice var og postage, pictorials, etc., mostly 10 of ea & F-VF -----	46.00
★	Accum several hundred (some in small quantities) mostly unused inc B65-68, 71, 83-89, 115; F, og (also Slovakia and Boh.-Mor.)	40.00
★田	Small accum nearly all diff and pictorials or airmail of blks, F-VF, og -----	21.00
★○	Balance of coll, hundreds mounted inc. Airs, Dues, unlisted (inc. sou. sheets and H/S ovpts 1940-45), generally F -----	24.00
○WH	Huge lot, many thousands sorted in envelopes from 1918 to date, mostly commem, but inc. several better values, useful to special ist or for packets. -----	25.00

INTERPEX 1969 DATES ANNOUNCED

The 11th International Stamp Exhibition INTERPEX, originally planned for the beginning of March 1969, has been re-scheduled for April 4-5-6 at the Americana Hotel in New York City.

These dates in April will be the Easter weekend and this will give many thousands of philatelists, especially from out of town, the opportunity of visiting New York and, at the same time, attending INTERPEX, today recognized as the leading annual philatelic event in the United States. The Easter weekend is always an exciting time in the greatest City in the world with many attractions taking place, one of the highlights being the Easter Parade of Fifth Avenue.

The selection of these dates also enables many philatelic clubs and societies to schedule conventions or spring meetings and, by doing so, to attract members from all over the country.

Many outstanding features and special exhibits have already been planned for the 1969 International Stamp Exhibition, as Mr. Herbert Rosen, its founder and Chairman has stated. Those interested in participation at INTERPEX should contact Industrial Exhibitions, Inc., 121 West 45th Street, New York 10036, the organizer of this Show, as early as possible.

POSTA MILITARE 52**CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POSTS: 1918-20**

By Bohumil Matejka
(Prague, Czechoslovakia)

Reprinted from The American Philatelist

Day's Order No. 163, issued Jan. 13, 1919 (see The American Philatelist, March 1967, Vol. 80, No. 6, page 410) states clearly that Field Post No. 52 (Posta Militare 52) is intended solely for the delivery of mail addressed to Italy. This Field Post had a special function among the other Czechoslovak Field Posts. Originally brought with them by the Italian Legion it was kept functioning even after these Army units were transferred to Czechoslovakia to expedite the transport of mail for the 127 Italian officers and servicemen detached to the various Italian Legion units which had been transferred to Slovakia. Its personnel was mostly Italian—both clerks and servicemen—and it was independent of the organization of the other Czechoslovak Field Posts in Slovakia. This exclusive standing of POSTA MILITARE 52 is clearly seen from the excerpt of the service protocol No. 13 issued by Gen. L. Piccioni on Dec. 26, 1918. It states, ". . . for the exchange of correspondence it is ordered:

"1. All Division Commanders will insure the daily delivery of official mail to the Chief Command by special couriers, as also the private mail intended for Italy, which will be assembled at the Army Post Office No. 52 in Kromeriz. . . The same postal regulations are in force for mail addressed to Italy, it is free of postal charges, but the mail that must be franked will be done so with Italian stamps which are on sale at the Army Post Office No. 52 in Kromeriz.

"2. One member of the National Guards will leave for Prague daily at 22:33 by train to deliver mail into the office of the Italian Army attaché. Next day he will return with mail for the Chief Command.

"3. Correspondence addressed to places in Czechoslovakia will be delivered through the local civilian post offices. . . ."¹

Three days later, Dec. 29, 1918, addendum No. 123 was issued by the Command of the Seventh Division of Italian Legionnaires) which prescribed the handling of official mail between the Chief Command and its subservient units, and also the handling of private mail. It read:

"In connection with orders formerly issued by the above-named Command, it is ordered that the post will depart each day at 6:24 a.m. from the Hodonin Railway Station to Kromeriz with official mail for the Army Corps of the Chief Command and with private mail for the Army Post Office No. 52.

"The post will return the same day to this Command (i.e., the Division Command) with official and private mail by train which arrives in Hodonin at 5 p.m.

"There are no changes in the regulations issued in Day's Order No. 64, Dec. 23, 1918, concerning the exchange of mail between this Command (i.e. Division Command) and its subservient units and detachments. Private correspondence must be delivered to the Division Headquarters where the assigned clerk (Lieutenant Marek) will collect and transfer it to the Army Post Office No. 52; together with insured and registered mail."

1—Point 3 of the quoted protocol goes on to explain the manner of handling common mail by the civilian post offices for, as has been formerly stated, the Army Field Posts in Slovakia only commenced to function from Jan. 1, 1919.

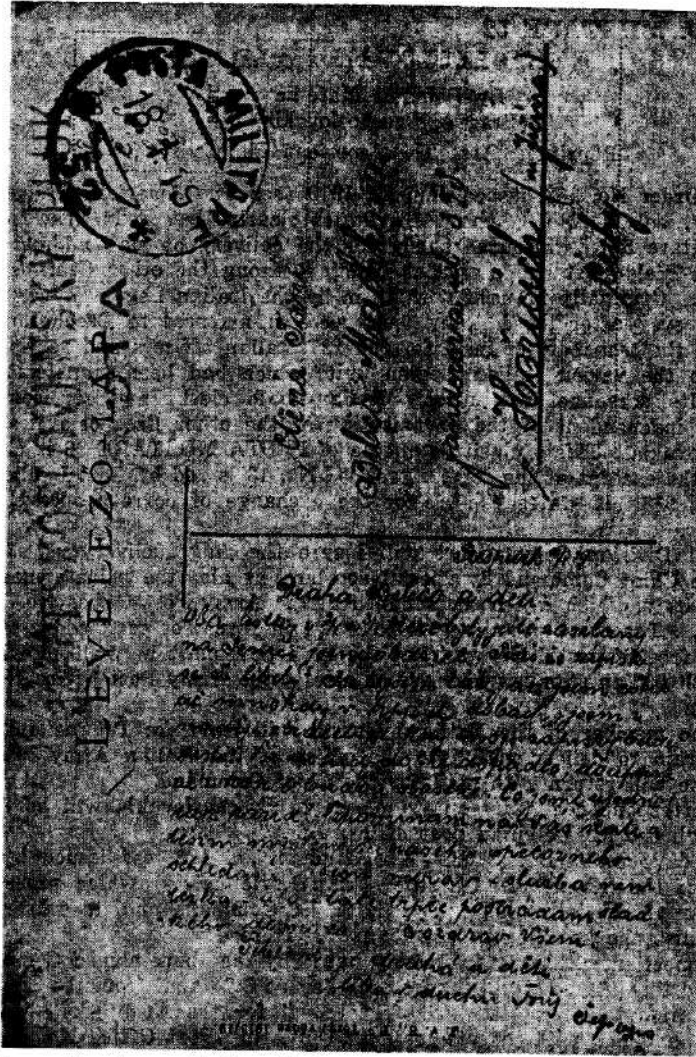


Figure 1. Handstamp of Posta Militare 52 on this postal cards addressed to Czechoslovakia.

From the above citations it is evident that the function of POSTA MILITARE 52 is unambiguous. Regardless of this fact, collectors will come across items from this period addressed to places in Czechoslovakia bearing the handstamp of POSTA MILITARE 52 (Figure 1).

There can be only one explanation that such items do exist. These items have been affixed with the stamp of POSTA MILITARE 52 contrary to regulations, either through ignorance, benevolence or as a favor. We must not forget that in the organizational beginning of the Czechoslovak Army Field Posts, such things were not only possible but very probable.

POSTA MILITARE 52 handstamp provides further interest for the collector in that both types (the stamp with dots and the stamp with stars) also exist in subtypes. For better discernment, four illustrations of this stamp are given, with a brief description of the characteristics of each.

(to be continued)

PARADE OF NEW ISSUES — Edited by Frank Kosik
 Art Series of Commemoratives — December 1966



Painting, that branch of art which finds expression in two dimensional surfaces, line and color, has been part of man's life from earliest times. In Czechoslovakia this art first appears in the 11th century in the form of book illustrations; the 12th century is marked by the appearance of wall paintings. This and further artistic work throughout the Middle Ages is closely linked with the Church which has preserved for us numerous treasures in its libraries, monasteries and churches of the Gothic period. The Renaissance turned the attention of artists to the earthly things of this world. Czechoslovak painting continued to grow and flourish in close symbiosis with the leading European trends.

This series of five works of art, reduced to a size of 30x40 mm is by one- and five-color recess print.

All are of 1 Kčs denomination:

"Spring" from the cycle "The Four Seasons" 1641. Václav Hollar 1607-1677.

Prague National Gallery. Color, dark brown. Engraved by Jiří Švengsbír.

"Portrait of Mrs. F. Wussin" 1716. Jan Kupecký, 1667-1740. Prague National

Gallery. Colors, yellow, green, red, blue, black. Engraved by Jiří Švengsbír.

"Snowy Owl" 1862. Karel Purkyně 1834-1868. Prague National Gallery. Colors,

yellow, grey-green, red-brown, brown, black. Engraved by Švengsbír.

"Tulips" 1929—Václav Špála 1885-1946. Prague National Gallery. Colors, yellow,

red, green, pale blue, blue. Engraved by Švengsbír.

"Recruit" Ludovít Fulla. Colors, yellow, green, red, blue, black. Engraved by

Josef Herčík.

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