

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the  Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Recipient of Silver Bronze Diploma Praga 1968

Editor:

Edward J. (Jack) Benchik, P. O. Drawer 1, Port Jefferson Station, N. Y. 11776

Assistant Editor:

William V. Schoenig, 20 Charles Ct., East Patchogue, N. Y. 11774

Copyright 1969 The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Vol. XXXI

October 1969

Number 296

THE CZECH SCOUT OFFICIAL MAIL DELIVERY SERVICE OF 1918

By Ivo Kvasnicka

Translated by J. J. Verner

Reprinted with permission from The American Philatelist,
with thanks for the use of their cuts

Scout Mail Cancellations

The Scout mails used three types of hand stamps to mark delivered mail:

(A) A round metal handstamp, 24mm in diameter, with the letters NV



Figure 12
NV cancellation.



Figure 13
Scout Mail cancellation.

Dopis od skauta _____
převzal: _____

Figure 14
Receipt stamp.

(Národní Vybor—National Council), which was used by the Scout Office at the National Council building (Figure 12).

(B) A round rubber handstamp, about 30mm in diameter, with the text "Posta Skautu—Praha 1918" (Scout Mail—Prague 1918) into which the date was written in manuscript (Figure 13). This cancellation was used by all the Scout Offices.

(C) A double-lined, rubber handstamp "Dopis od skauta _____, prevzal _____ (The letter from the scout _____, was accepted by _____). This marking (Figure 14) was signed on the top line by

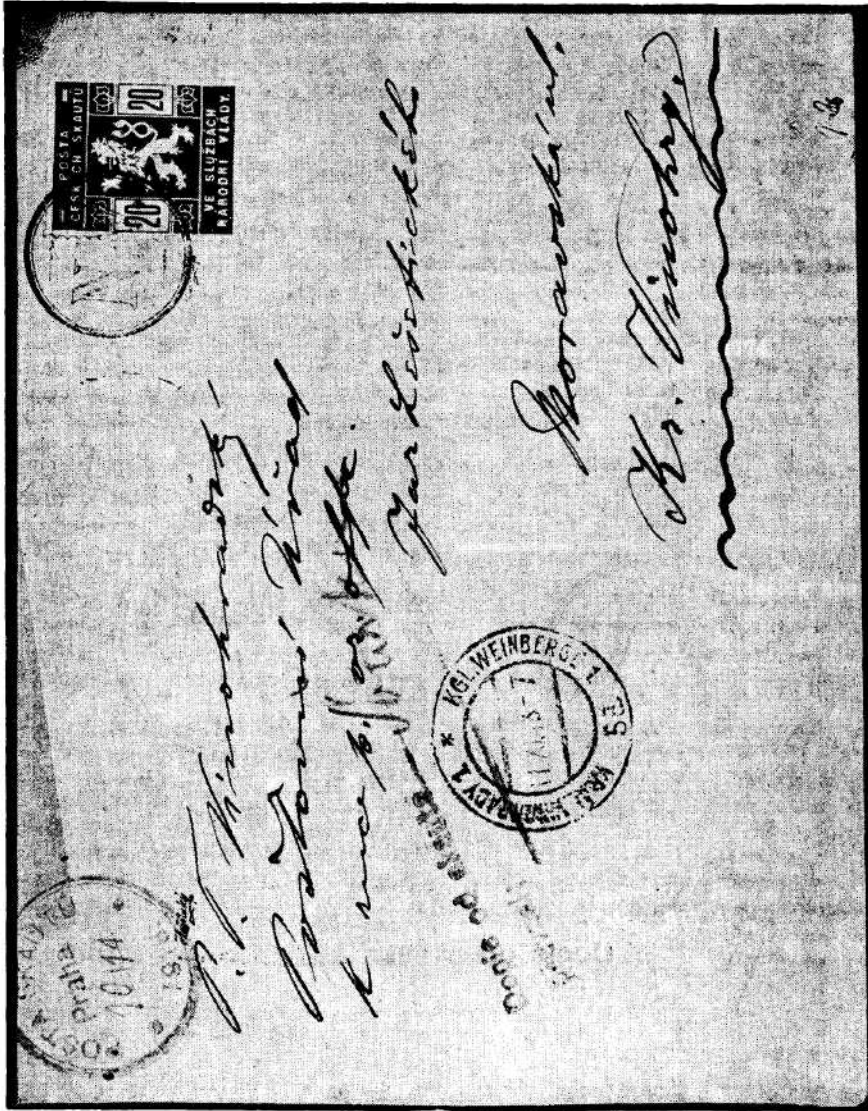


Figure 15. Genuinely-delivered letter with Scout stamps and cancellations.

the Scout making the delivery, and by the recipient on the second line. These signatures confirmed the letter's delivery.

These markings appear most often in blue or purple; occasionally in red. The author also has seen genuinely used covers with markings in green.

All items delivered by the Scout Mail had stamps and markings affixed (Figure 15). This same regulation also applied to letters delivered by the regular mails to the National Council and then turned over to Scouts for delivery to a specific office or individual (Figure 16). Letters bearing mixed frankings—Scout and regular Austrian stamps—are rare and are sought as historical postal documents of the post-revolutionary period. Stamps were

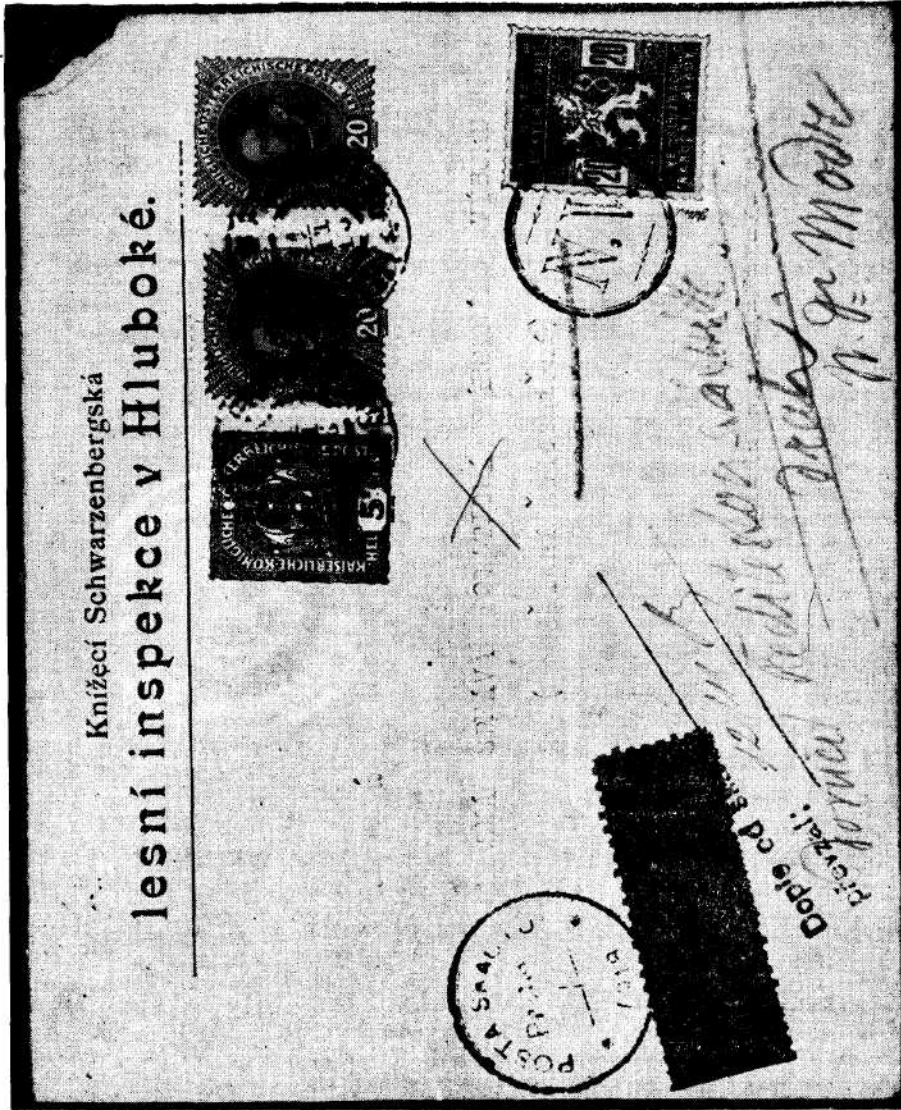


Fig. 16. Registered letter sent through regular mails and delivered by Scouts.

applied to the first page of telegrams (Figure 17). If they were long, and included more than one page, each additional page had a Scout cancellation applied. The Scouts daily delivered packets of newspapers and journals—stamps were pasted on only the first copy of such bundles and then canceled.

The regulations on franking with Scout stamps were not always followed, especially when a Scout ran out of stamps while on duty. For this reason, and because some Scout Mail was delivered before the stamps were valid, covers can be found that only bear Scout cancellation markings. If a receipt book was used by a Scout the cover need not bear the two line marking "Letter from Scout ----- Accepted by -----" (Figure 18).

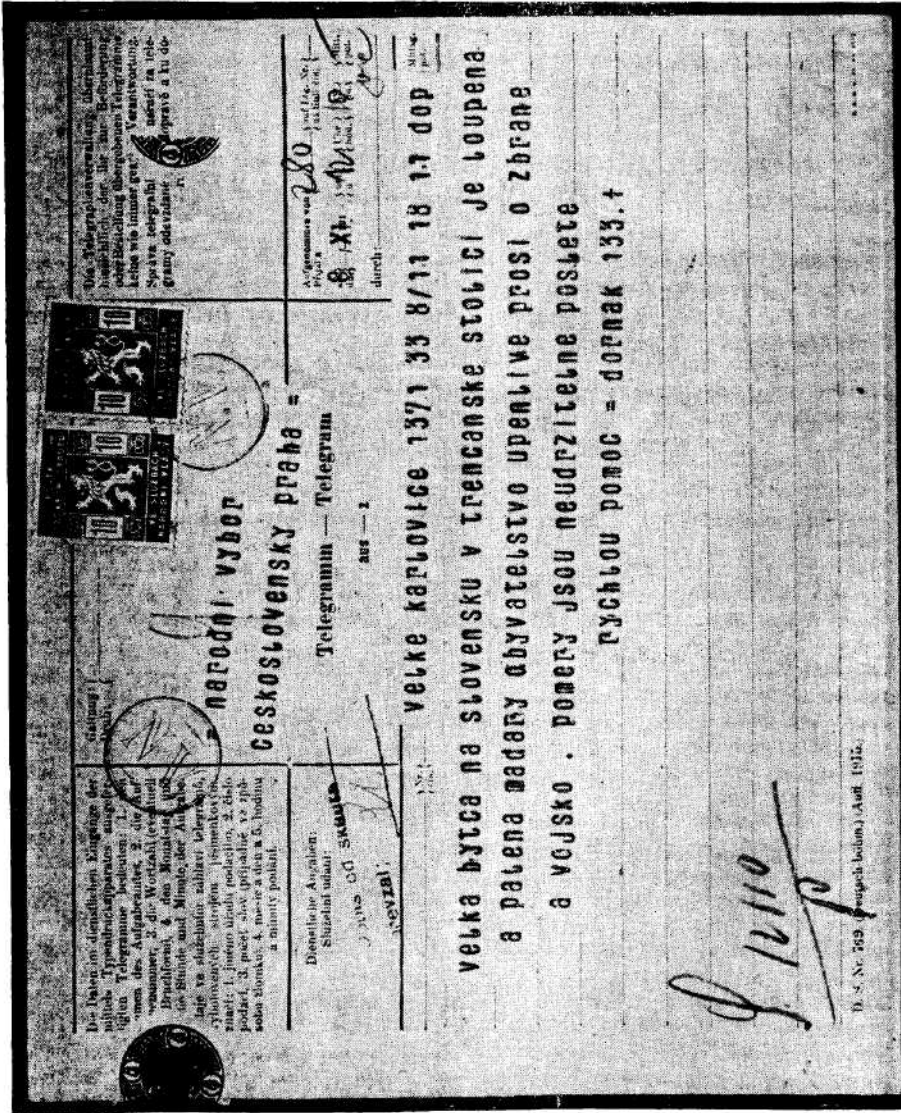


Figure 17. Telegram from Velky Karlovice and delivered to National Council by Scouts, Nov. 8, 1918.

Unofficial Markings on Covers of the Scout Post

(A) An official, but non-postal, rubber, elliptically shaped handstamp with the legend "Národní výbor ceskoslovensky v Praze" (Czechoslovak National Council in Prague)—Figure 19. This marking appears in violet, red, and black.

(B) Markings of the individual Scout units which worked for the National Council (Figure 20). These markings only represented publicity for the Scout units and had no postal significance.

(to be continued)

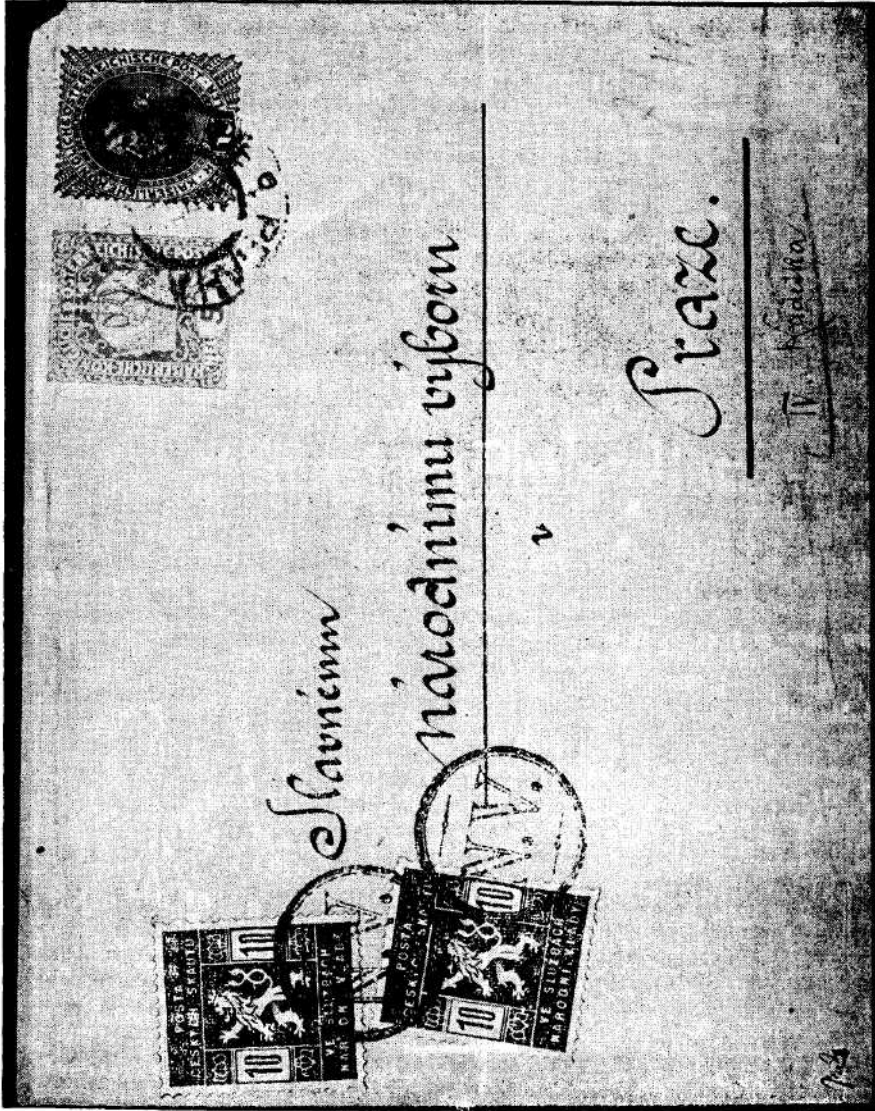


Figure 18. Letter delivered by Scouts.

NOTICE FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

Article VI, paragraph No. 1 of the Constitution of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society states the following:

"Any person, who shall have been nominated by one member in good standing, who shall have paid the first year's dues and who shall have been endorsed by the regional vice-president, shall be elected to membership."

This has not been followed in the past. With the printing of new membership applications the following changes have been made:

1. Recommended by and membership number
2. Endorsed by and membership number

When a member sponsors a new applicant to join the society, the member signs his name and membership number to the application under recommended by. Then send the application to the vice-president of the region in which the applicant resides. After endorsement, the vice-president sends it to the National Secretary.

The regions for the U. S. A. are as follows:

EAST: Connecticut, Delaware, Dist. of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

CENTRAL: Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin.

WEST: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

The following provinces of Canada are assigned to these regions:

EAST: Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

CENTRAL: Ontario, Northwest Territories.

WEST: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon.

All foreign members are to be endorsed by the International Secretary.

You can order the new application blanks from the National Secretary—let's have every member get a new member!

EDITORIAL

In order to give you members the best coverage possible in your magazine, short news notes will be printed concerning the activities of other Czechoslovak philatelic organizations, particularly those in this country. It starts in this issue with notices about the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America, the Chicagoland Czechoslovak Philatelic Society and the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of New York. These reports will be brief so as not to be overwhelming. This way a good balance will exist between these news notes and articles on stamps.

Best wishes for a continued recovery from illness to our national secretary, George Schabow and long time advertiser, Arthur Kessler.

It's coming to that time of the year again for the collecting of dues. Enclosed is your dues envelope. Please return it at your earliest convenience to the treasurer. If you can swing it financially, give Patron membership a try this year.

By the time you receive this issue, there will be only a short time remaining to vote. Cast your ballot as there are two candidates for every office.

You have a choice—exercise it! They say competition is a healthy thing. In this case our society is very healthy. Even though I am one of the candidates and being human I would like to comment on the issues and personalities involved, I will restrain myself and be objective by keeping quiet. In this regard, letters to the editor are obviously not part of the editorial because they originate from whomever writes them and not the editor. When not lengthy, threatening, libelous or in poor taste, they are welcome for publication.

True to my word, I said in my first editorial, which was in the last issue, that most of my editorials would not be long. Classify this one in that category. Depending upon the need, some issues will not even have one.

ASSISTANT EDITOR APPOINTED

You will notice a new name and position on the masthead. This is in keeping with constantly striving to improve this journal. Distribution of the Specialist is a time consuming task as one out of every four of us moves during the course of a year. It's not easy to accurately keep track of these address changes. William Schoenig has done a fine job of this during the past few years. To give Bill the official recognition he has earned and deserved, the society president has appointed him to be Assistant Editor of the Specialist. Also in this capacity he will function as an advertising manager. Due to its size, the Specialist doesn't need an advertising manager as a separate position. This will be one of the duties of the Assistant Editor besides circulation. An effort is presently underway to increase advertising from dealers and a study is in process to determine the best means of having a want ad and exchange ad system for members.

AUSTIN RECEIVES AWARD

Congratulations are due Thomas M. Austin for winning a silver medal at the 4th Annual National Philatelic Exhibition, Costa Rica 1969. He showed Czechoslovakia 1918-1939. This is terrific publicity for Czechoslovak philately. Keep up the good work, member Austin.

ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS CZECHOPEX CONVENTION

The First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America provided the Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs with its finest two day convention in the history of the Federation in the Cicero-Berwyn area of the state. Joseph J. Janicka, Program Chairman, arranged one of the most original and successful programs ever to be held at an IFSC convention. Besides Joe being the president of our society, he is also president of the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America. This is an organization of individuals of Czechoslovak origin and not necessarily collectors of only Czechoslovak stamps.

The themes of the convention were to honor Abraham Lincoln on the first day and Thomas G. Masaryk on the next day. Many attractive philatelic mementoes were prepared, such as cachets, cancellations, etc., incorporating the 1968 commemorative for the 150th anniversary of Illinois Statehood (Scott 1339), the 4c Lincoln stamp from the 1965-68 Prominent Americans Issue (Scott 1282), and the 4c Masaryk stamp from the Champion of Liberty Issue of 1960 (Scott 1147). The Czechoslovak Republic Post Office in Praha used a special cancellation which read: "PRAHA—FIRST CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC CLUB OF AMERICA—VYSTAVA 1, C. S. FILATELIST—ICKE KLUBU V USA—29.3.1969—CZECHOPEX '69—CICERO, ILLINOIS".

CHICAGOLAND CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Concluding in May with COMPEX, Com(bined) P(hilatelic) Ex(hibition), this group had a successful season. It met ten times and the programs of the monthly meetings covered such topics as: PRAGA 1968, Fakes and Forgeries of Czechoslovakia, Eastern Silesia, Czech and Slovak philatelic literature, Centenary of the Postage Stamps (Penny Black of England) and the present state of philately in Czechoslovakia. This last presentation was given by Ivo Kvasnička of Prague. He is the son of Czechoslovak Philatelic Society honorary member, Zdeněk Kvasnička. A "Czechoslovak Night" was presented to the Collectors Club of New York. This organization is translating a booklet into English on the "Slovenský štát 1939" (the first definitive issue of Slovakia). They are also preparing a bibliography on Czechoslovak philately as this is incomplete and they solicit help from Czechoslovak collectors to augment the listing. Send your compilation to: John Velek, 6218 West Diversey, Chicago, Ill. 60629, giving the title, author, translator, date of publication, and number of pages. (Editor's note: objectivity prevails with the mention of this.)

CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

This society of Czechoslovak collectors in the New York area closed out the philatelic season with their "Annual Dinner Meeting." It had a good attendance of 32 persons. Here it was announced that George Koplowitz was elected chairman. At other meetings held during the spring included discussions and displays of Czechoslovak Postal Markings during the 1945 Liberation and Postal History of the U. S. A.

New Issues

There are many of the New Issues of the past few years that have not been illustrated or mentioned in the Specialist. To "catch up" on these, basic information only will be given.



Sept. 6th, 1965—"Floods on the Danube" 30h blue, 2 Kč green. Designed by Mr. Brunovský and engraved by Mr. Herčík.



October 24, 1966—Kčs 0.40—Hradec Králové, brown and light blue; Kčs

0.50—Telč, grey and ochre; Kčs 0.60—Ostrava, red and grey; Kčs 1—Olomouc violet and light green. Designed by Jaroslav Chudomel and first two engraved by Bedřich Housa, last two by Josef Herčík. Rotary recess print and photogravure in sheets of 100. 23x19mm.

The following five stamps issued between July 24 and August 20, 1965:



(illustration reduced slightly in size)

5 Kčs—Titian—Young Woman at Her Toilet. 30x40mm. Those of the perforated sheet 75x90mm. 5 colors, printed by flat recess. Engraver, Švengsbir.



1 Kčs—International Symposium on Macro-Molecular Chemistry. Meeting in Prague Sept. 1-8, 1965. Rotary recess print combined with photogravure in black and orange. 30x23mm. Engraved by Josef Herčík, designed J. Fišer.



60h—Academia Istropolitana 1465-1965. 500th anniv. founding of the University in Bratislava. Designed by Vincenc Hložník, engraved by Bedřich Housa. Rotary recess print in brown. 23x30mm.



30h—The painter Josef Navratil, 1798-1865. 100th anniv. of his death. Designed by Karel Štika, engraved by Jindra Schmidt. Rotary recess print combined with photogravure in black and brown. 23x19mm.



30h—150th Anniv. Birth of Lodovit Štúr 1815-1965. Designed by Ernest Změták, engraved by Jan Mráček. Rotary recess print and combined with photogravure in dark brown and green. 23x19mm.



Dec. 18, 1965—Day of Czechoslovak Postage Stamp. Kcs 1. NOTE, the Artia release says color "black and blue" however the stamp is printed in red and grey. Designed by Josef Liesler and engraved by Ladislav Jira. Rotary recess print and photogravure in sheets of 50. 19x49mm. FDC issued.



(illustration reduced slightly in size)

May 23, 1966—Butterflies. Kcs 0.30—The Swallowtail (*Papilio podalirius* L.) Yellow, orange, blk, blue; Kcs 0.60—Alpine Clouded Yellow (*Colias palaeno*

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

For the More Advanced Collector

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 209-11 St. Cyril — \$5.00 | GUTTER PAIRS | |
| | (and one set only with Pl. 1a ----- | 10.00) |
| | (and one set only with Pl. 1 ----- | 10.00) |
| 218-23 Castles — \$4.00 | | 230-1 Entente — \$4.00 |
| 240 Castle — 75c | (1 only Pl. 1 2.00) | (1 only Pl. 1a 2.00) |
| 249-50 Scenes — 1.00 | 307-09 Reds (vertical gutters) | 11.50 |

Back in stock—Padělky—Czecho Forgery Book \$3.96 plus 60c packing-shipping

B. J. MILLER & SON

264 East 180th Street

New York, N. Y. 10457

BACK ISSUES OF THE SPECIALIST

BOUND ORIGINALS

| Year(s) | On Hand | Cost |
|---------|---------|--------|
| 1946-47 | 1 | \$6.50 |
| 1949 | 2 | 4.50 |
| 1951 | 3 | 4.50 |
| 1951-53 | 3 | 8.50 |
| 1952-53 | 4 | 6.50 |
| 1953-54 | 1 | 6.50 |
| 1954 | 5 | 4.50 |
| 1954-55 | 3 | 6.50 |
| 1955 | 8 | 4.50 |
| 1958-59 | 1 | 6.50 |
| 1959 | 3 | 4.50 |
| 1960 | 5 | 4.50 |
| 1961 | 2 | 4.50 |
| 1962 | 1 | 5.50 |
| 1963 | 2 | 5.50 |
| 1965 | 1 | 5.50 |

UNBOUND XEROX COPIES

(Made up on special order)

| Year | Number of Issues | Months issued | Cost for full year |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1939 (Vol. I) | 7 | May to Nov. | \$3.50 |

SINGLE ISSUES

Each unbound copy of any of the above is 50c

All prices include postage, order from the treasurer:

THOMAS MEEKS

532 West 145th St., Apt. 6, New York, N. Y. 10031

europome Esper.) Yellow, red, brown, green; Kčs 0.80—European Purple Emperor (*Aparatura ilia Denis and Schiffermuller*). Yellow, brown, purple, black; Kčs 1—The Appolo (*Parnassiu apollo L.*) Yellow, black, red, grey-green; Kčs 1.20—The Tiger (*Panaxia Dominula L.*) Yellow, red, green, brown; Kčs 2—The Cream-spot Tiger (*Arctia villica L.*) Yellow, brown, red, green. Designed and engraved by Jiří Švengsbír, .60 and .80 Kčs engraved by Josef Herčík. Flat recess in sheets of ten. 37x23mm. FDC issued.



Aug. 31, 1966—Drill of Army of the Warsaw Pact. Kčs 0.60. Designed by Jaroslav Lukavský, engraved by Ladislav Jirka. Recess print and photogravure in sheets of 50. 41x23mm. FDC issued.



Aug. 29—70 Years of the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee. 60h, black and blue; 1 Kčs, blue and red. Designed by Jaroslav Fišer and engraved by Jindra Schmidt and Josef Herčík. Rotary press and gravure in sheets of 50. FDCs issued.



(illustration reduced slightly in size)



Sept. 26, 1966—Space Research. 20h First Orbital Meeting (1965), violet and green. Engraver: Bedřich Housa. 30h—Averted Side of Moon (1959-1965) dark green and red. Engraver: Bedřich Housa. 60h—First Photos of Mars (1965) Blue-grey and light violet. Engraver: Josef Herčík. 80h—Smooth Landing on the Moon (1966). Dark violet and blue. Engraver: Josef Herčík. Kčs 1—Cosmic Connection—Laser ray—binary code. Black and blue. Josef Herčík. Kčs 1.20—Communication Satellite (1962) Red and blue. Bedřich Housa. Designed by Jaroslav Lukavský. Rotary recess print and photogravure in sheets of 50. 49x19mm. FDCs issued.





Sept. 11, 1966—"Brno 1966"—30h both sides of the silver tolar issued by the Moravian Estates in 1620, black and red; 60h, stylized drawing of Mercury, the ancient god of commerce and herald of peace, black and orange, Kčs 1.60, State Theatre in Brno with city emblem, black and green; and a Kčs 5 sheet, a postal rubber stamp with "Brno 1966", with examples of Brno's modern architecture, yellow and red, blue and black. The stamps designed by Josef Liesler and engraved by Jindra Schmidt, the commemorative sheet by Jaroslav Lukavský and Bedřich Housa. Rotary recess and photogravure in sheets of 50, and the sheet by multi-color flat-bed steel press. FDCs issued.



January 16, 1967—30h—5th Youth Congress, red and blue; 30h—6th Trade Union Congress in Prague, red and yellow; 60h—Peace and freedom for Vietnam, black and red. Designed by František Gross and engraved by Josef Herčík, Jan Mráček and Jindra Schmidt. Rotary recess print and photogravure in sheets of 50. Both 30h 30x23mm and 60h 23x30mm. FDCs issued.



July 1966—"30th Anniversary of the International Brigade in Spain." 60h, depicts Pablo Picasso's painting "Guernica." Rotary recess print and photogravure in sheets of 15. 75x30mm. Black and grey. On the high hand margin of each sheet are five coupons measuring 23x30mm each, bearing the inscription "Picasso—Guernica—1937" and the picture of a hand clutching a broken sword, a detail from the painting. FDC also issued.

40th MAIL SALE

Mostly covers only a few sets

Covers: 1. 166 covers with diff. HRADCANY

2. 68 Hradcany covers all Registered
3. 35 covers ALL with postage dues
4. 206 covers of the FIRST republic
5. 211 covers second republic
6. 128 covers third republic
7. 117 FDC third republic
8. 321 covers from all periods of Czecho.
9. 58 covers of the Boh-Mor period

cards:

10. 116 cards postal stationery
11. 133 cards ONLY picture stationery
12. 88 cards with pictures of PRAG only picture postcards with stamps

stamps:

13. 1923 semipostal set compl. unused
14. same used
15. SLET compl. UNused
16. same used
17. CONGRES unused set vf
18. same used
19. KDE DOMOV MUJ superb, both sheets in folders
20. the stamps UNused
21. the same used
22. a folder with a picture and BOTH stamps on ordinary paper spec. cancel, vf

Mail your bids early

Books close October 31, 1969

Alfons Stach

P. O. Box 386—Shenandoah Station

Miami, Florida 33145

WANT TO BUY

MINT MINT
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ISSUES 1923-1926
(Scott Nos. 92-118)

Full Sheets

Part Sheets

Blocks

Die Proofs

Color Trials

Plate Proofs

Rare Perforations

Varieties

Rare Watermark Positions

ARTHUR I. KESSLER

221 East 78th Street

New York, N. Y. 10021
