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DESIGNS (ESSAYS) OF CZECHOSLOVAK STAMPS

By Zdeněk Kvasnička

Translated by Henry Hahn

Some collect them, some don't. It is the collector's rightful privilege to choose what to collect and how to organize his collection. General collecting has its routines, established by album spaces or catalogue listings. The specialist, on the other hand, has numerous opportunities to create in accordance with his taste and knowledge. I know of such creative collections, and enjoy returning to them at exhibitions, though they do not contain true rarities of high catalogue value. Yet they contain much work, striving, an final attainment of the desired objective. In such collections one find most new, never before published discoveries.

We are familiar with certain well developed areas of Czechoslovak phi-



Fig. 1

lately, such as for example the overprint POŠTA ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ 1915, the first (Hradčany) issue, or Ruthenia. However, there are many more areas that still await development, including essays and trial printings. These are found in great numbers at exhibitions, though their descriptions are generally incomplete and often even incorrect.

It is precisely here where one must carefully judge, what was truly required in the course of printing trials, what is directly related to postal history (development of the stamp), and what is of purely speculative origin; though the material may be pleasing in appearance or otherwise interesting. The collector wishes to be informed and guided.

It is certainly inadequate to caption the exhibit to the effect that the printing is rare and seldom seen in collections.

In every collection we can find something which "someone else" hasn't got and when one arranges it all logically and without imagination, there arises a collection anyone can assemble. But in an outstanding collection, each modest but objective piece of information is pertinent. I am convinced that through the exhibition of such collections, the trade in worthless printed colorful labels which are offered in Prague "at Novak's" as trial printings would decline.

Every collector must pay his "tuition"—we all know that. But should this be the rule? Should not members of the commission of expert occasionally examine the material offered at the exchange? The sale of various forgeries and fakes should be eliminated and forbidden.

However, I shall return to the original purpose of this article. I have come across a memorandum which the print shop, A. Haase of Prague, forwarded to the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs in 1923. With it there is submitted a design of a new issue of postage stamps containing themes by Professor Jos. Zvěřina of Čáslav, on the occasion of the Žižka celebration, 1424-1924. The Ministry did not accept the proposed designs, but merely permitted the use of a commemorative cancel in red for the occasion.

There are many designs which have found their way to collectors, and it is therefore important to clarify their purpose and origin. Zvěřina describes the postage stamp from the postal, artistic and collector's point of view. As a result of prior experience with typography, he considers printing from engraved plates as the only correct solution in which the design of the stamp is expressed by means of a fine, forgery-proof technique. Theme-wise the designs are of a historic nature, based on the 500th anniversary of Žižka's glorious period, which had a sequel in Jiří of Poděbrad, Komenius and eventually in the rebirth of Czech nationhood through the Czechoslovak Republic. Every nation—Professor Zvěřina points out—presents to the outside world that which it considers its best: the Czech nation has a rich past, often captured on canvases by its outstanding artists such as Aleš, Brožík, Hlava—and sculptors including Šaloun, Myslbek and others, which, if produced in postage stamp mini-



Fig. 2

ature, would broaden interest in our nation throughout the world.

At that time, the print shop of A. Haase was well equipped for printing from engraved plates, and had in its employ among others, the engraver Karel Wolf. Subject-wise, the set of submitted designs is extremely interesting. Consisting of 12 regular postage stamps, the following designs are included: Jan Hus (Šaloun), the birth of Jan Žižka (Mánes), at the castle Rábí (Chittusi), his death in 1424, at Korybutovic, in Slovakia, Jan Žižka (Myslbek, Aleš and Hlava), Jiří of Poděbrad (Aleš), J. A. Komenius (Brožík), and T. G. Masaryk (illustrated in Fig. 2).

In addition, there were proposed 14 postage due stamps: Fortified Tábor, Čáslav, Budweis, Prague, Kutenberg, Pilsen, Hradec Králové, Domažlice, Husinec on the Balta, Lipany, Pernštýn, Orava, Báňská Bystřice, and Zvoleň (see three sample illustrations in Fig. 3).

Further, the designs included six newspaper stamps: mode of transportation, Karel Havlíček (stagecoach), Brunn (railroad), Mělník (river transport), the vessel "Legie," Mladá Boleslav, and, Lázně (Spa) Poděbrady (two designs illustrated at the center of Fig. 1).

Finally, there were three air mail designs: M. R. Štefánik, Plane over Prague (shown in both sides of Fig. 1).

The designs exist in two sizes, printed on various types of paper and in various colors. All bear the inscription "POŠTA ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ". These are private printings and not essential to a collection, yet it is useful to know by whom and for what purpose they were produced. In order to prevent the misuse of the official title (Pošta Československá) on various future private printings, the Ministry of Posts forbade its use. Thus on subsequent designs the title is either omitted entirely, or the letters are scrambled. However, it is again pointed out that such printings must essentially be considered as private labels. As a consequence of considerable demand by uninformed collectors, one of the designs, Žižka, by Hlava, was subsequently forged by lithographic means. (Second design, Fig. 2).



Fig. 3

NOTICE FROM THE SALES MANAGER

Presently there are only 6 circuits on the road, have only a few books on hand, not enough to make another circuit. Please make up some more sales books. Some of you do have blank books on hand. Those who do not have any and wish to dispose of their duplicates, Czechoslovakia and others, may order books from me, they are 13c each plus postage. As a rule there are 10 circuits on the road at all times, right now we have reached a low. I need your books to bring our circulation up to standard again. Please send whatever you have ready, even one book at the time will help. This past year it looked as if we had lost one book out of one circuit, but it turned up. By the way, we have a very good record, have not had any losses for over 10 years. Again, please mount your duplicates and send me your books so that I can make up more circuits.

Wolfgang Fritzsche P. O. Box 8, Canandaigua, N. Y. 14424

A NEW SERIES OF COUNTERFEITS—FIRST AIRMAIL ISSUE

By Jan Karásek

Translated by Mirko Vondra

"Counterfeits of Czechoslovak Stamps," an authoritative publication on the subject, has exposed four varieties of counterfeits of the 500 h. Hradčany stamp overprinted with 24 k. for airmail use. Two of them are of the overprint itself (designated A and B). The other two are of the stamp in general (designated C and D).

Counterfeited overprints appear mostly on cancelled stamps and both are readily detectable. Generally they are distinguishable from the genuine product in that the forgeries are much clearer and more detailed. There is a marked difference in the two categories of counterfeited overprints.

Recently a used stamp with a dull bluish overprint was submitted to me by Svatopluk Zampach of Brno. Inasmuch as the stamp had been cancelled, a closer scrutiny was required. I was forced to conclude that we were confronted with a forgery of high quality—finer than any known to exist in this series. Undoubtedly the imposter who produced this false replica a few decades ago must have had considerable experience and was armed with a profound understanding of typesetting and print needed for similar counterfeiting. It can be assumed that the forgery referred to in the above mentioned publication as "D" serve as a model for this extraordinary counterfeit. Some signs point to this conclusion at first blush. But on closer inspection it is possible to ascertain a number of minor variations in the first overprint just as there are variations in the earlier falsified overprint labelled "D".

In Illustration one (shown three times actual size), we can see the original overprint with all its genuine details:

- The pilot's head is connected to the wing of the plane by a vertical line (a).
- The support bars intersect four lines of the wing (b).
- Beneath a white spot on the surface of the tail are three white dots (a tiny surface divided into three equal parts) (c).
- The wheels under the hull are oval shaped and the thick line along the left side forms an inner cut with a white dot near the center of the rim



Fig. 1

on the right wheel. (d).

- The top outline of the tail forms a step (e).
- The base of the hook over the letter "c" is slightly curved (f).
- The hub of the propeller is partly shaded (g).

The new counterfeit, shown in Illustration Two, has the following discernible characteristics:

It matches the original in

- The pilot's head (a).
- The support column (b).
- The tail (c).
- The hook over the "c" (f).
- The hub of the propeller.

It differs from the original in

- The dull color of the overprint.
- Below the white spot on the surface of the tail are two tiny irregular white dots (c).
- The wheels under the hull are of a more elongated shape (d).
- The three center support bars directly behind the pilot's head are equally spaced.
- The ends of the two inner support bars extend further beyond the white surface of the wing.
- The surface of the tail has a completely different pattern.
- The upper leg of the letter "k" is thinner than the lower leg.
- The letter "c" is shaped differently, the bottom part of the curve being more open.
- The propellers differ one from the other in size and shading.

From the above description it is apparent that over five symbols, when compared with the original, unequivocally identify this overprint as a fraud. Despite some degree of risk, it is possible to distinguish genuine overprints from forgeries in this series. In all likelihood, these counterfeits exist in minimal quantity so that the danger of owning one is considerably lessened.



Fig. 2

EDITORIAL

For the sake of completion, this issue concludes the town equivalents for Slovakia. Don't confuse this with the list of town equivalents for ALL of Czechoslovakia, which was recently printed in serial form. The town equivalents for ALL of Czechoslovakia is available as a separate publication. Loose copies can be purchased for \$1.25 from the Editor. There will be a delay for the spiral or case (hard cover) binding as the binding has not been done yet. It's best to have this all done at one time because of a cheaper rate. Let your editor know as soon as possible if you are interested. The cost will be approximately \$2.00 for spiral binding and about \$4.50 for case binding.

A new policy is now into effect for those of you who write or translate articles for this journal. Due to the fact writing or translating for the Specialist is a non-paying labor of love, every author who writes an article that is published will receive 10 free copies of the issue in which his article appears. A translator will be sent five copies free of charge. This is the least which can be done as a token of appreciation for these fine people.

Please note in the Advertising Rates of the Specialist for a member to qualify for the 10% discount, his ad must be prepaid.

The following wishes to exchange: Ing. Arch. Luděk Vejman, Brno 14, Slezákova 14, Czechoslovakia. Since his letter is written in Czech, it is assumed he desires to correspond in this language.

Members who change their addresses are requested to inform the Assistant Editor, Wm. A. Schoenig, 20 Charles Court, East Patchogue, N. Y. 11774, at least thirty days prior to moving. Due to rising costs of printing and postage no free copies of the Specialist will be sent to members who lose an issue because of address change. For replacement, the regular charge of fifty cents will be made.

A clipping sent by Joe Stein reports that United Nations stamps will be available in Czechoslovakia thru Artia because of an agreement concluded between the U. N. and Czechoslovak philatelic officials recently here in New York.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1969

Income		Expenses	
Dues -----	\$1,191.00	Printing of Specialist -----	\$959.75
Advertising -----	118.80	Mailing of Specialist -----	212.80
Circuit Commission -----	68.81	Binding of Specialist -----	52.00
Sale of Books -----	9.05	Stationery -----	36.22
Donations -----	67.70	Postage -----	23.00
Interest on Savings -----	24.15	Dues SPA, Federation -----	7.00
		Legal Fees (Attorney) -----	550.00
	<u>\$1,479.51</u>		<u>\$1,840.77</u>
	Transfer from 1968 -----	\$1,093.74	
	Income in 1969 -----	<u>\$1,479.51</u>	
		\$2,573.25	
	Expenses in 1969 -----	<u>\$1,840.77</u>	
	IN TREASURY	** \$ 732.48	
	**In checking acct. -----	\$ 160.46	
	In savings acct. -----	572.02	
		<u>\$ 732.48</u>	

Audit by: Mirko L. Vondra, 537; Mrs. Regina Reiner-Deutsch, 697

TOWN EQUIVALENTS IN SLOVAKIA

(continued from Oct. 1967)

Slovak		Hungarian, G-German, R-Ruthenian	
Šalanky	Salank	Veliká nad Iplom	Vilka
Šalov	Garamsalló	Veliké Gejovce	Nagygejőc
Šamorin	Somorja	Veliké Komňaty	Magyarkomját
Šaštín	Sasvár G. Sassin	Veliké Loučky	NagyLucska
Šečovec	Gálszécs	Veliký Berezny	Nagyberezna
Šimonovce	Rimasimonyi		R. Velikoje-Bereznóje
Šók	Magyarsók	Veliký Bočkov	Nagybocsko
Šom	Beregsom	Veliký Palad	Nagypalád
Štrkovec	Kövecses	Velká Čalomija	Nagycsaloma
Štrkvtok na Ostrove	Csütörtök	Velká Bytča	Nagybiesesé
Šurany	Nagysurány	Velká Ida	Nagyida
Tačovo	Técső, R. Tyachovo	Velká Maňa	Nagymánya
Takšón	Taksonyfalva	Velká Polana	Nagypolány
Tallós	Tallós	Velká Ves nad Iplom	Ipolynagyfalva
Tardoškéd	Tardoskedd	Velké Kapušany	Nagykapos
Tarnovce	Ungtarnoc	Velké Kosiny	Nagykeszi
Tekovská Šarluhy	Nagysallo	Velké Lúdice	Nagyöldved
Terebla	Talaborfalu	Velké Šarovce	Nagysáro
Teresva	Taraczköz	Velký Fedýmeš	Nagyfödémés
Terna	Ternye	Velký Gyreš	Nagygéres
Topoľčany	Nagytopolcsány	Velký Kevežd	Nagykövesd
Tón	Tany	Velký Kýr	Nyitranagykér
Tornala	Tornalja	Velký Leg	Nagylég
Torun	Toronya	Velký Mačad	Nagymácséd
Trebišov	Töketeremes	Velký Mager	Nagymagyar
Trebušany	Terébesfeherpatak	Velký Meder	Nagymegyer
Trenčín	Trencsén G. Trentschin	Velký Tarkaň	Nagytaskány
Trgyňa	Tergenye	Viškovce	Ipolyvisk
Trhováá Hradská	Vásárút	Vojčice	Vécsé
Trnava	Nagyszombat G. Tyrnau	Volosianka	Hajasd
Trnovec nad Vahom	Tornoc	Volové	Ökörmezo R. Vo'ová
Trnovo nad Teresvou	Kökényes	Volovec	Volóc
Trstená	Trsztna	Vráble	Verebely
Turčiansky Svätý Martin	Turoczszent Márton	Vranov nad Toplon	Varanno
	G. Sankt Martin	Vrbovka	Ipolyvarbo
		Vulcovce	Irhóc
Tuří Bystry	Turjasebes	Výlok	Tiszaujlak
Tuří Remety	Turjaremete	Vyškovce nad Tisou	Visk
Turna nad Bodvou	Torna	Vyšní Blh	Felsőbalog
Ubla	Ugár	Záhatí	Hátmeg
Ujllak pri Trebišove	Bodzásujlak	Zalaba	Zalaba
Ulič	Utcás	Záluž	Beregkisalmás
Ust'orna	Királymező	Zeliezovic	Zseliz
Úzor	Úszor	Zemianská Olča	Nemesőcsa
Užhorod	Ungvár R. Uzgorod	Zemné	Szimő
Vajka nad Dunajom	Vajka	Zlaté Moravce	Aranyosmarót
Vajka nad Žitavou	Vajk	Zlatna na Ostrove	Csallokőzaranyos
Vary	Vári	Zvolen	Zólyom G. Altsóhl
Veča	Vágvecse	Ždénovo	Szarvasháza
Veľatý	Velejte	Želiezovce	Zseliz
Veliká Běhaň	Nagybégány	Želovce	Zsély
Veliká Dobroň	Nagy Dobroň	Žigard	Zsigárd
Veliká Kopaňa	Felsőveresmart	Žilina	Zsolna G. Sillein

THE SOKOLS IN POSTAL DOCUMENTATION

By Jiří Nekvasil

translated by Mirko Vondra

Reprinted from Merkur (Journal of the Czech Union of Philatelists)

The thoughts of Dr. Miroslav Tyrš in the last century culminating in the national establishment of a voluntary organization for physical development became significant guidelines for a way of life in the years to come. There were concepts of brotherhood and equality, of Slavic compatibility, of honorable sportsmanship and a competitive will to win. The Sokol movement in Czechoslovakia and elsewhere trained a wide variety of persons for an armed revolt against the Austro-Hungarian Empire and contributed immeasurably to closer ties between the enslaved Slavic nations.

Sokol ideals quickly spread to other Slavic countries. A Russian Sokol was organized, along with Sokol clubs in Poland, the Ukraine, Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia. After the first World War, several of these clubs combined to form the Yugoslav Sokol. Patriots in Austria (especially in Vienna), Germany, France and elsewhere set up nucleus units of the Sokol which helped sustain a feeling of nationalism and encouraged strong bonds with the fatherland.

On February 14, 1865, an American Sokol unit was organized in St. Louis, Missouri which, after a hundred years, has reached a membership in excess of 250,000 and is one of the most solid and active physical training groups anywhere. Today there are even Sokol organizations in Canada, Australia and elsewhere.

The initial Sokol meets were manifestations of its intentions and expressions of hope in a free nation. The first meet in 1882 was closely linked with the name of Dr. Miroslav Tyrš. He planned it, organized it and directed it. A small local island on the river Vltava sufficed for the first meet. A total of 720 male gymnasts participated, in addition to Sokol athletes from Zagreb and Ljubljana.

From 1882 to 1948 there were eleven Sokol meets held in Prague. Of these, the most notable ones were held in 1912 and 1938, for they resounded in nationalistic manifestations of solidarity.

An abundance of philatelic matter emanated from the Sokol movement. This includes not only postage stamps, but also hand and machine cancellations, cachets and seals. The oldest known philatelic record of the Sokol movement is a special cancellation used in June 27 to 29, 1903 in Lvov at a local festival of the Sokols. (LEMBERG—SOKOLTURNFEST).

Of keen interest is a group of picture postcards issued by the Prague Sokol in 1887. It was made ready for a Sokol meet to be held later that year, but it never took place. On their reverse side, the cards bear portraits of Dr. Tyrš, Jindřich Fügner, Dr. Gregor, a figure of a Sokol athlete, emblems of the city of Prague and the Czech crown, coats of arms of early Czech territories and pictures of the castles at Karlstein, Kokorin and Rhip. The address sides are captioned in fine print: "Correspondenz-Karte," and beneath it in bold print: "Korespondenční Lístek." In the upper right hand corner in the space reserved for stamping is the following framed text in German: "The State recognizes equal justice in school, at work and in public life of those who live in the land of their native tongue. (Paragraph 19 of the State Law enacted December 21, 1867)." Through this means, the Prague Sokol pushed for official acceptance of the Czech language. But Austrian authorities banned the postcards from circulation. They considered the text too inflammatory.

In 1908, when a series of Austrian stamps was issued to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the reign of Franz Josef (Scott no. 110 to 127), Sokol Smichov II released seals designed to utilize the jubilee stamps for propaganda purposes. In design as well as color, the seals matched the stamps of the 3, 5 and 10 heller denominations. They were captioned: "For a Sokol II Tyrš Gymnasium at Smichov."—3, 5 and 10 hellers. In the center, each seal provided space for pasting of its equivalent jubilee stamp. Thanks to the attacks on them in the German press and in the Viennese Parliament, the seals were quickly sold out. At first, post offices accepted mail bearing stamps on these seals, but later they rejected it.

In 1912 on the eve of World War I, Prague hosted the fourth All-Sokol Festival which now acquired serious political overtones. It inaugurated the first special Sokol cancellations, distinguished as "A" and "B" and inscribed "IV. SLET SOKOLU—PRAHA—PRAG." It is shaped as a double circle with an inner channel bearing the date "14-6-12" in red color.

The First World War had a disruptive effect on the Sokol movement. After the birth of the Czechoslovak State in 1918, the threatened Republic hastily reorganized its military units. Because Allied armies stood scattered outside its borders and their transport facilities were granted leaves of absence, voluntary Sokol groups were rushed in to relieve the strain on its major cities. The Czechoslovak Field Post exhibited remarkable unity of purpose at this time with its use of Sokol cancellations.

II.

The first Czechoslovak special cancellation employed this Sokol theme: "Sokolský Slet ve Znojme—Č.S.P.—24.VIII.1919".

The seventh Sokol met was held in 1920. It was a powerful expression of Sokol solidarity. 27,083 male athletes participated along with 23,472 females. 48,000 Sokols marched in the grand parade. For the first time, the Czechoslovak Army collaborated in the events. For its guests and visitors, the Postal authorities prepared three circular hand cancellations identified as A, B and C and containing the following words: "(25.VI.-6.VII.1920) PRAHA-Č.S.P.-VII-Všesokolský Slet" along with a machine cancellation.

In 1921, the Sokol met took place in Liberec where another special cancellation was used: "Liberec—Sokolský Slet—14.VIII.1920."

In 1926, the eighth Sokol meet was held in Prague. From a philatelic standpoint, it was better publicized. The Post Office Department issued a set of four stamps bearing a portrait of Masaryk with an overprint "VIII—Slet Všesokolský Praha 1926." (Scott no. B140 to B143). In addition, a special postcard was issued with a green printed stamp of 50 h. value with a portrait of Masaryk (Novotny no. 31). It has the following inscription in the upper left hand corner: "VIII—Slet Všesokolský—VIII—Fete Federale des Sokols—Praha 1926." At the Sokol festivities, mail was cancelled with a row of three special round cancellations: "Praha—VIII—Slet Všesokolský (3., 7., 12., 14., 19—22.VI., 26.VI-7.VII.1926).

In 1929 and 1931, two additional special cancellations were used for the occasion:

"1929—Orlová—Krajský Slet Sokolstva na Těšinskú 1929 (29., 30.VI. a 5.-7.VII.1929)."

"1931—Kopřivnice—Krajský Slet Sokolstva 1931—5.VII."

The ninth Sokol meet took place in 1932 in conjunction with the centennial celebration of the birth of its founder, Dr. Tyrš. The postal authorities issued a popular set of four stamps (Scott no. 187 to 190) and two series of pictorial postcards; one with a green 50 k. value printed stamp bearing Masaryk's portrait and a similar one in brown valued at 1.20 k. The postcards

showed pictures of the official Sokol poster designed by Professor Svabinsky, views of the meet, scenes of Prague and various architectural landmarks.

At the Sokol grounds a whole line of special cancellations was in use. These read: "Praha—IX.Slet Vsesokolsky (a, b, c, d, e, f, g)—5.VI.-7.VII." This includes a series of machine cancellations to publicize the event. These cancellations were in Czech as well as in French, in black ink as well as blue ink.

From June 18 to July 7, 1932, a Sokol festival exposition was held which employed its own special cancellation in black ink: "Praha 14—Sletová Vystava."

An increased quantity of special cancellations was used from 1934 to 1938 to commemorate the Sokol festivities at local district level along with other similar events:

- 1934: "Kolín 1—50 Let Dorostu a Sokolské Župy Tyršovy—2., 3., 9., 10.VI." (green). "Opava 1—Krajský Slet Sokolstva 1934—17. -30.VI." (green and red). "Vimperk—Sokolský Slet a 50 Let M. ODB. N. J. P.—23. and 24. VI." (green). "Polička—1.7.1934." (violet and blue). (This one was used in place of the regular daily cancellation). "Usti nad Lábem—Krajský Slet Sokolský—a. b. -24.VI.-8.VII." (black). For this meet, a postcard bearing a 50 h. printed green stamp showing a closeup of Masaryk was released both with and without a legend.
- 1935: "Česká Třebová 2—1885 až 1935—23.-30.VI." (blue). "Moravská Ostrava 9—Sokolské Dny Ostravských Okrsků—29. -30.VI." (green). "Tábor 1—Krajský Slet Sokolstva 1935—5.-7.VII." (blue). "Semily—jubilejní Slet Sokolske Župy Krkonošské—14 -.VII." (blue).
- 1936: "Liberec 1—Padesát Let Sokola—30.V.1.VI." (black) "Chrást U Chrudimě—Oslavy 50 Let Sokola—1886 až 1936—7.VI." (blue). "Orlová—Sokolský Slet—7.a 21.VI." (black). "Turčiansky Svätý Martin—27. a 28. VI." (blue). "Trenčín—Zájazd Čos—27 a 28.VI." (blue). "Nitra—Zájazd Čos—27. a 28.VI." (green). "Spišská Nová Ves—Zájazd Čos—27. a 28. VI." (green). "Prešov 1—Zájazd Čos—27. a 28.VI." (green). "Košice—1—Zájazd Čos—27. a 28.VI." (green). Užhorod 1—Zájazd Čos na Podk. Rus 27. a 30.VI." (blue).
- 1937: "Místek—1887—50 Let Sokola —1937—19.-21.VI." (blue). "Blansko—Sokolský župní Slet—Zborovské Oslavy—20.VI." (orange). "Vysoké Mýto—Slet Sokolské župy Východočeske—Pippichovy—20. až 27.VI." (green).
- 1938: "Štrbské Pleso—Sletové Zimne Hry—a, b -1.-14.II." (blue).
 "Tatranská Polianka—" (same as above).
 "Starý Smokovec—" (same as above).
 "Nový Smokovec—" (same as above).
 "Tatranská Lomnica—" (same as above).

On January 21, 1938, two stamps were issued announcing the Sokol games (Scott no. 241 and 242) and a series of eight picture postcards with a printed green 50 h. stamp showing a closeup of Dr. Beneš. The pictures show winter scenes in the High Tatras.

- "Praha 1—Sletová Informační Služba—a. b.—1.III. až 15.VIII." (black).
 "Uherský Brod—Slet Sokolské župy Komenského—22.V.-I.VI." (green).

In the summer of 1938, Prague played host to the tenth All-Sokol meet. It was an expression of the movement's determination to defend its country against the threat of Fascism. A three-stamp set was released (Scott no. 246 to 248) and a series of eight pictorial publicity postcards with a printed stamp of 50 h. value bearing a portrait of Fuegner with motifs of Prague and other Sokol festivals. There were several post offices on the Sokol grounds which used octagonally shaped cancellations in blue ink with the

words "Praha—X. Slet Vsesokolský—(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o)—28.-29.V., 16., 18., 19., 25.VI.-7.VII." These post offices also used special Registry labels in addition to machine cancellations publicizing the names of major cities in Czechoslovakia with inscriptions in both Czech and French and a special machine cancellation in blue for use on postcards only. Besides that, the following Sokol cancellations were adopted:

"Dobříš—III. Slet Sokolské Župy Pražské Scheinerovy—5. and 6.VI." (blue). "Praha 14—Sletová Výstava X. Vsesokolského Sletu—a, b,—26. VI., 7.VII." (green). "Praha—IV. Středoškolské Hry Při X. Vsesokolském Sletě—a, b -9.-12.VI.VI." (bluish red). "Praha 36—Sokolské Večery Slovanské Na Žižkově -2.-4.VII." (blue).

The Nazi occupation spelled doom not only to the Sokol movement, but also brought persecution, imprisonment and death to many of its members. But with the liberation of the country in 1945, the Sokols were quickly reorganized, aware of their responsibility in future mass undertakings. In chronological order, these undertakings encompassed activities noted in the following cancellations:

1945: "Vysoké Mýto—Sraz Sokolstva—26.VIII." (black).

"Brno 1—Tyršovy Hry—28.-30.IX." (black).

"Praha 1—Tyršovy Hry—a,b -28.-30.IX." (black).

Privately overprinted postcards with a printed 60 h. stamp showing a linden branch were known to be in use during the above Tyrš athletic events. (Novotny no. 74).

1947: "České Budejovice 1—Otevření Sokolovny—Slet Sokolské Župy Husovy—14.a 15.VI." (black). "Klatovy—Slet Sokolské Župy Šumavské—14.a 15. VI." "Zatec—Slet Sokolské Župy Sladkovského—14.a 15.VI." "Praha 1—Předsetové Telovýchovné Slavnosti Čs. Škol—21., 22., 28.-29.VI." "Praha Autoposta." "Shrudim—Slet Sokolské Župy Východočeske Pippichovy—29.VI.,5.a 6.VII."

"Frydek 3—Slet Sokolské Župy Moravskoslezské—5.a 6.VII." "Karlovy Vary 1—Slet Sokolské Župy Karlovarské—5.a 6.VII." "Ústí nad Labem 1—Slet Sokolské Župy Krušnohorské Kukanovy—5.a 6.VII." "Svoboda nad Upou—Sokolský Slet V Krkonoších -13.VII." "Praha 8—Rozestavny běh XI. Vsesokolského Sletu -25.-27.X." "Kladno 1—50 Let Sokolské Župy Bedečské—21.XII."

The ninth All-Sokol meet occurred in 1948. Yugoslav, Polish and Soviet gymnasts participated, along with Serbians and members of ROH. On March 7, 1948, a series of three allegorical stamps was issued. (Scott no. 343 to 345). It represents homage by the Sokols to the Republic and shows the famous Hradčany castle in the background. Each sheet of stamps contained twelve coupons, each with a sketch of the mast of the Sokol flag bearing the words "Ni Zisk, Ni Slavu" (neither for gain, nor for glory). A second series was issued on June 10 (Scott no. 351 to 354) showing portraits of Dr. Vanička and Dr. Scheiner.

In 1948, the following special Sokol cancellations were placed in circulation:

"Praha 1—Sletové Ustředí—a,b—7.III. -8.VII." "Frydek 1—Slet Sokolské Župy Těšínské Jana Čapka—6. až 20.VI." "Duchcov—Slet Sokolské Župy Krušnohorské Kukanovy—13.VI." "Turnov 1—Slet Sokolské Župy Ještědské—13.VI." "Praha—XI. Vsesokolský Slet—1a-1k, 2a-2j, 3a-3i, 4a-4e, 5a-5e—18.VI. -8.VII." (Altogether forty cancellations of the last mentioned were in use). "Praha—Autoposta—XI. Vsesokolský Slet—a,b-18.VI. -8.VII."

Additionally, there were various machine cancellations which advertised

this meet. Two series of pictorial postcards were also released. The first series was designated for domestic use with a printed 1.50 K stamp showing a closeup of Dr. Beneš. It was available with 16 different pictures. The second series had eight different pictures with a printed red stamp of 3 K denomination. Both series were issued in two groups which indicate distinct differences. (An accurate account of these two groups has been written by Antonin Hoza in an article published in the 1948 Czech Philatelists magazine on Page 153).

During the years 1949 to 1952, these rare Sokol cancellations were found in use:

1947: "Kojetin—I. Okresni Slet Sokolstva—25. a 26.VI."

"Protivanov—Sokolske Dny—3.VII."

1951: "Praha 12—IX Sjezd Čos—a, b, c, d—21.-23.VI."

A series of four stamps was issued in June 1951 to commemorate the ninth congress of the Czechoslovak Sokol units (Scott no. 466 to 469). A first day cover was available for this set.

1951ó "Praha—Autopošta—IX. Sjezd Čos—24.VI."

"Kralupy N. Vltavou—1901—Oddíl Kopane—1951—23.-24.VI., 1.VII."

1952: "Bratislava—Slovensky Sjazd Sokola—Za Splnenie Suborneho Planu—27.VI." "Znojmo 1—Sokol—Finale Sřm V Lehke Atletice—6.-7.IX."

In 1928 and 1938, there were two Sokol slogans in circulation. The first of these was introduced on December 7, 1928 for use with general letter mail dispatched from the offices of the Czechoslovak Branch of the Sokol located at Tyrš House.

Praha 9—Below the stamp was a solid black circle with a white monogram showing "Sokol—Čos." Beneath the intertwining monogram was the address—"Praha III—Tyrš House."

A new slogan was again used during June and July 1938 on the occasion of the Tenth All-Sokol Congress.

Praha 9—Between the stamp and the postal slogan cancellation appeared a four-line publicity item:

X	10th
Všesokolsky Slet	All-Sokol Congress
V Praze 1938	In Prague - 1938
Červen - Červenec	June - July

Naturally both slogans appeared in red colors.

III.

During the nineteenth century, Sokol concepts became anchored among Slovenes and Croats, who eventually organized Sokol groups in Ljubljana and Zagreb. The Serbian was not founded until 1907. Of unique interest was the solidarity behind the second Slovenian All-Sokol meet in Ljubljana in 1904. Violet circular cancellations containing the words "II Slov. Všesokolski Slet V Ljubljani 17. Mal. Srpana 1904" (Second Slovenian All-Sokol Meet in Ljubljana—August 17, 1904) appeared directly on bare parcels or envelopes but never over the affixed stamps.

1921 saw the emergence of the Yugoslav Sokol Federation. Recollections of the national Sokol meet there are of interest in that it was held in Osijek on St. Vitus Day, June 15, 1921. Unusually perforated seals of 43 by 33 mm. were released for the occasion. They bore this printed heading: "II Pokrajinski Slet Jugoslovenskoj Sokolskoj Saveza Osijek Vidovdan 1921." (Second National Yugoslav Sokol meet at Osijek, St. Vitus Day 1921). The center of the seal contained space for pasting of a postal stamp. The seals matched the colors of the then current Yugoslav stamps. (Zu catalog no. 170, 171, 172, 174, 175, and 178). In use was an oval cancellation bordered by two parallel

lines with the words "Osijek-Vidovdan" appeared in Latin and Cyrilic and with a winged Sokol in the center. Cancellations were in red ink.

In 1929, the Yugoslav Sokol became the state's semi-official organ for physical education. Prior to World War II, it had 850 units and 13,000 so-called gentlemen farmers. In 1930, the first All-Sokol Meet took place in Belgrade. Yugoslav postal authorities employed a double circular cancellation of 36 mm. diameter with a cross-channel bearing the date June 29, 1930. It was stamped in rose-colored ink. Another Sokol Meet was held in Ljubljian in 1933. Two stamps in denominations of 75 paras. and 1.5 dinars (Zu catalog no. 310 to 312 and 307 to 309) joined the parade of Yugoslav philatelic development.

In 1965, the American Sokol movement celebrated its 100th anniversary with memorable ceremonies, inasmuch as it is one of the world's largest physical training organizations. The United States Post Office Department honored the occasion with issuance of a five-cent stamp showing a discus thrower (Scott no. 1262). A substantial quantity of first day covers was available. These were cancelled in Washington, D. C. Machine cancellations were of 21 m. diameter; hand cancellations were 24 mm. in diameter.

In July 1965, a philatelic exhibition with a Sokol theme was held in Berwyn, Illinois. A special cancellation was used bearing the words "American Sokol Philatelic Exhibition Station; Berwyn, Ill." Naturally other material like special seals, cachets, etc. was on hand for the occasion.

Sokol slogans exist even in the United States. It is possible that many varieties were in circulation during the last forty years, but only two are known to me:

1—Chicago, 1965

2—Berwyn, 1967.

Both of these slogans bear a date mark, a serial number and a Sokol emblem in addition to the accompanying stamp. They appear in green and violet ink. Our friends and compatriots in the United States are requested to keep me informed of further philatelic items of interest concerning the American Sokol. Their cooperation will be immensely appreciated.

A patient and careful collector can always uncover new items of interest about the international Sokol—often in wide-range general collections. Usually they are revealed as used postcards with pictures or inscriptions of various international Sokol Meets. Oftimes the affixed stamp does not even bear the customary special Sokol cancellation. In this manner a number of collector's items came to my attention. They publicized the Sokol Meets in Paris between 1900 and 1913, the Sokol Meet held in Dresden on June 13 and 14, 1914 and other memorable events. These are not only among my finest philatelic gems, but attest to the history of the Sokol movement.

Assembling similar specialized collections is not only absorbing, but helped to preserve philatelic material of historical value and imparts new knowledge of hitherto unknown or forgotten events of related significance.

IN MEMORIAM

With deep regret the passing of the following members is reported:

MARK G. SNOW, 75

Fairview Park, Ohio, a member from the society's early days and at the time of his death, he was the society Vice President—Central.

M. L. HROMADKA, 520

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, besides being a member of our society, he was the president of the Western Bohemian Fraternal Association.

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society wishes to express its sincere and heartfelt sympathy to their families and friends.

43rd MAIL SALE

This time we will sell a Czechoslovak collection which was formed in Vienna. There are many fine items and bulk material which has to be sold—the prices are NOT catalog prices but suggested minimum bids.

1.	A box with covers and cards all w stamps used before 1918, abt 100	\$10.00
2.	100 postcards of Praha with stamps -----	4.00
3.	Scout stamps, 10h and 20h, Unused -----	2.00
4.	Same used on piece -----	2.00
5.	Same on 2 covers -----	5.00
6.	Šrobar issue complete, 29 values USED -----	35.00
7.	I. Štatni vlada complete set with special del., all stamps signed --	22.00
8.	II Štatni Vlada, complete with special delivery, all signed -----	22.00
9.	Budejovice, set up to 10K, black overprint -----	6.00
10.	Same, set up 10K RED overprint -----	6.00
11.	Skalice, complete * -----	14.00
12.	Jehlička 5K red block of four -----	2.00
13.	Hradčany, the good value, 10h, 20h, and 30h, imperf., signed large margins -----	25.00
14.	On covers, about 100 -----	10.00
15.	6 complete sheets -----	12.00
16.	86 waste prints—a very fine lot -----	8.00
17.	Collection mostly used on album sheets (varieties, etc.) -----	10.00
18.	About 10 blox * of diff. Hradčany -----	5.00
19.	Pošta 1919. 1K with black overprint -----	10.00
20.	20h Karel LIGHT green -----	5.00
21.	10K light violet superb -----	20.00
22.	10k DARK violet, superb -----	20.00
23.	Collection of about 60 diff. values -----	8.00
24.	11 diff. INVERTED overprints, all signed -----	11.00
25.	Hungarian Parliament set, til 5K -----	12.00
26.	Hungarian postage due stamps (red) complete -----	15.00
27.	20 filler black Porto -----	10.00
28.	Masaryk issues, 1920, 1.25, 500, 1,000 * -----	1.00
29.	Scott 101A to D complete * -----	50.00
30.	Same, used -----	5.00
31.	1K (Raminko) Scott No. 102 -----	10.00
32.	1923 complete * -----	2.00
33.	Same, used -----	2.00
34.	Congress * vf set -----	20.00

35.	Slet, complete set * vf -----	15.00
36.	Tyrs complete set * -----	2.00
37.	Bohemia Moravia collection complete -----	12.00
38.	Same, used -----	12.00
39.	Very specialized with most of the coupons and gutter pairs vf Retail \$100 -----	32.50
40.	Theresiendstadt imperf (signed) -----	3.00
41.	Same, perf. (signed) -----	3.00
42.	Allegory and Dove complete * Tete beche -----	15.00
43.	Same used -----	15.00
44.	AIRMAILS, first set * -----	5.00
	Second set * -----	10.00
	Third set -----	1.00
45.	S. O. complete set only the common up to 1,000 and dues -----	3.00
46.	500 and 1,000 H Masaryk, Scott \$70 -----	18.00
47.	Coll. of S. O. on pages incl. the S. O. Masaryk -----	25.00
48.	SIBERIA, the 3 values perf. 13¼ -----	1.00
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50.	the 3 values perf 11½ -----	7.00
51.	Lion, complete, large saber -----	15.00
52.	Same, small saber -----	15.00
53.	A Siberia cover -----	10.00
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55.	N. Y. Worlds Fair 1939-40, 21 * and used -----	21.00
56.	SUDETEN, cards and covers (22) -----	10.00
57.	A complete collection of Czecho in nice album, high cat., nice -----	28.50
58.	SECOND REPUBLIC, collection of nearly all the stamps -----	10.00
59.	Covers, about 100 -----	10.00
60.	Gutters of the soldier stamps -----	10.00
61.	THIRD REPUBLIC, 200 picture stamps -----	1.00
62.	67 FDC, vf lot -----	6.00
63.	1500 stamps, part in sheets, part loose -----	8.00
64.	50 Miniature sheets of all periods -----	5.00
65.	Accumulation of covers, all periods, about 250 -----	5.00
66.	Kde Donou huj ** -----	110.00
67.	Same, used -----	100.00

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Ask for an approval.

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