

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK Specialist

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Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

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**FOR FULFILLMENT OF FAVORITE PHILATELY—  
FORWARD TO PHILY THIS FALL**



The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society is scheduling its biennial convention and exhibition at SEPAD on Friday through Sunday, October 16-18, 1970 at the Sheraton Hotel, on 17th Street and John F. Kennedy Blvd. in Philadelphia, Pa. Our society is participating in this S(outh) E(astern) P(ennsylvania) A(nd) D(elaware) exhibit. Thanks to the splendid cooperation of our members about 50 frames (800 pages) of Czechoslovak material has been promised for exhibition. This will make it one of the largest and most representative displays of Czechoslovak material in the past 20 years on the East coast. Our president, Joseph J. Janecka, has donated six awards for the Czecho exhibitors. Our own judges will judge the exhibits. Winners will be announced and awards presented at our convention on Saturday afternoon. The society will have a table manned by our members, where we will display our philatelic literature, such as: Handbook of Bohemia-Moravia and Slovakia, Czech-English and English-Czech philatelic vocabulary, and the "Specialist." Membership applications will also be available.

We shall also have on sale pictures of T. G. Masaryk with SEPAD exhibition station cancel. These pictures made by Vilem Tomicek are a nice addition to any T. G. Masaryk stamp collection. Members not coming to Philadelphia can order the picture from the chairman, whose address is listed at the end of this item, postage prepaid for 70c, while the supply lasts. On Saturday, Oct. 17th we shall have a lady in a Czech national costume guiding the visitors through the Czechoslovak exhibit. The Washington, Illinois and New York branches will be well represented not only with exhibits but also in personal attendance. Of course, even if you don't belong to one of the Society's branches, there is still a hearty welcome for one and all.

On Saturday afternoon, at 3:30 p.m. we shall have our society's convention. Please consult the hotel daily directory for the proper room. The convention will hear reports of officers and plan future activities. We have to increase our membership in order to keep step with the increased costs of running the society. (See editorial about forthcoming membership drive.) After the business meeting one of the most outstanding experts of balloon post, Mr. Ernst M. Cohn of Washington, will deliver a talk about the balloon mail of 1871 during the siege of Paris.

**See your old friends and meet new ones at SEPAD in Philadelphia. Let's make this the best ever!**

For any additional information contact the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society Convention and Exhibition Chairman: Joseph Stein, 585 East 21st St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226.

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#### STAMP MARKET TIPS by John G. Ross

Reprinted from STAMPS

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA**—Since the end of World War II this country has issued a lot of stamps, with most of them in large quantities in order to get as much foreign exchange as possible. Many of them were cancelled to order and sold at a fraction of the mint price. Some souvenir sheets were issued in rather small quantities, like the one issued in 1952 to commemorate the National Philatelic Exhibition at Bratislava, Scott No. 556. The mintage was only 197,000 sheets. My guess would be that two-thirds of that issue was cancelled to order, thus leaving probably about 50,000 for the mint collector, and which is the reason that sheet has become rather scarce. Dealers in Vienna, who do a lot of trading with Czechoslovakia, are offering \$3.75 per sheet to anyone who has some to sell. Prices in Czechoslovakia are as high as \$10 each at retail. Over here in the U. S. A. you can still pick up this miniature sheet at a much lower price, but better do it now, for many are being bought up and sent back to Europe, making it inevitable that the price will go higher here.

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#### NEWS OF MEMBERS

Felicitations to Bernard Hennig, who won the top prize at COMPEX, and to Zdeněk Kvasnička and Charles Chesloe for awards of FISA medal and Gold Medal, respectively, from the same exhibition.

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#### RUDOLPH SECKY 52

We report with great sorrow the passing of one of our past presidents (1943-44), Rudolph Secky.

He was a Charter Member of our Society, and had been active in the New York Branch of Czechoslovak Specialists as well as active in national affairs of the Society. He had a very fine collection of unusual items which included some unique material. He was an ardent collector until fairly recently when illness prevented him from working with his collection. He was also a faithful participant at the annual dinners of the local collectors. Rudi was the only member of our Society who spent some time in 1918-19 in France and Slovakia as a Legionnaire having traveled to Europe on the SS Rochambeau on August 8, 1918, to join the Czech forces at Cognac, France. He traveled on a passport issued by the Czechoslovak National Council in New York and returned in November 1919 with the traveling papers of a Sgt. of the 23rd Czechoslovak Infantry Regiment.

His friends will miss him very much and the Society has lost one of its loyal members whose memory we all will cherish. The members wish to express their heartfelt sympathy to his widow and children.

#### EDITORIAL

With this edition of the Specialist, your editor has completed his first year and full cycle (September to June) of publishing your magazine. Believe me, it has been quite an experience. My thanks goes to all of you for having tolerated my mistakes. Like fine wine, I hope to improve with age. Obviously if it were up to the editor alone, the Specialist would not be the

successful philatelic periodical that it is. So I want to express my gratitude to those, who without their kind and able assistance, compiling and editing this journal would be an impossible task: former editors Dr. Will Reiner-Deutsch and Frank Kovarik, assistant editor Bill Schoenig, President Joe Janicka, Treasurer Tom Meeks, former New Issues Editor Frank Kosik, International Secretary George Blizil, former Vice President and Treasurer Joe Stein, Sales Manager Wolfgang Fritzsche, and especially all contributors, authors and translators too numerous to mention. Unfortunately when people are listed by name you always run the risk of forgetting someone due to a temporary lapse of memory. Then, only to remember after it's too late to include them in print. If any of you are in this category, your forgiveness please, as the oversight is strictly unintentional.

This edition has the annual membership list and it can be seen that we are spread among 32 states and 10 foreign countries. Once again like last year, because of Treasurer Tom Meeks, we have a geographical listing following the alphabetical listing. While on the subject of members, there is under consideration the possibility of having a membership drive with prizes going to those bringing in new members. Anyone willing to participate in such an effort or who has any ideas on the subject, please contact the editor.

To correlate two related articles published at different times in the Specialist, particularly for you heraldry fans (like your editor), the illustrations for the article reprinted from Linn's appearing on pages 66 to 68 of the May 1970 Specialist titled: "New Issues—Czechoslovakia Adds Ten Values Depicting Heraldry" are in the new issues section on pages 90 and 91 of the June 1969 Specialist.

A few years ago the now defunct Weekly Philatelic Gossip had the following:

"Pardon me, Madam, but your want list is showing! Reader Edmund Berger of Oklahoma, agrees with us that many stamps cataloguing from 2c to 50c are just not to be found. One can find ten dollar items much easier than the list of wants that Mr. Berger gives us. Open up your albums and you will see that most, if not all, of these stamps are missing in your collections also. Here is the list: (Editor's note: Only listed are the stamps that apply to our specialty):

Czechoslovakia: Scott Numbers 148, 326, B156, B159  
Slovakia: Nos. 43, 110, B1."

How about it, just for the sake of curiosity, look in your collection and see where you stand in comparison to a general collector. Are you surprised at what you lack or satisfied with what you have?

Due to the membership list and a New Issue Section (in an attempt to catch up) taking quite a bit of space in this month's Specialist, the continuation of the translation of Leitenberger's "Handbook of Czechoslovak Postmarks of Austrian and Hungarian Origin" is not in this edition of the Specialist. It will most likely be in next month's Specialist.

#### NEW ISSUES

On January 31, 1969 the Czechoslovak Post and Telecommunication Administration issued the following commemorative stamps:

- a) 50th Anniversary of the Czechoslovak Red Cross
- b) 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the League of Red Cross Societies, the World Federation of National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies
- c) 50 Years of the International Labor Organization



- a) 60 h—The Czechoslovak Red Cross—1919-1969. Stamp Picture: A cross composed of twelve red crosses. Designed by Ivan Strnad; Engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied; red, gold, black
- b) 1 Kčs—League of Red Cross Societies—1919-1969. Stamp Picture: A dove in the shape of a heart with the symbols of the respective organizations. Designed by Ivan Strnad; Engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied; red, blue, black.
- c) 1 Kčs—International Labor Organization—1919-1969. Stamp Picture: A given motif—graphically adapted by Vladimír Kovářik and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied; black and grey.

The stamps were printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50 by the Post Printing Office in Prague. Dimensions of the stamp pictures are 23x30 mm.

Two First Day Covers, designed by the respective artists and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied, were issued with the set. The first has three joined leaves with the symbols of the given stamp motif and the second the official ILO emblem.

### Advertising Rates of the Specialist

Amount of space	One issue	Three issues	Five issues	Ten issues
Full page	\$12.00	\$34.50	\$54.00	\$100.00
Half page	8.00	22.80	36.00	64.00
Quarter page	6.00	17.10	27.00	48.00
Eighth page	3.40	9.80	15.30	27.20
Sixteenth page (4 lines across page)	1.80	5.10	8.10	14.40
Thirty-second page (2 lines across page)	1.00	2.80	4.50	8.00

1. All amounts are total cost.
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3. For the sixteenth page (4 lines) and thirty-second page (2 lines) ads, there are 70 characters per line for all letters, numbers, punctuation and blank spaces between words.
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5. It is the advertiser's responsibility that his or her copy is correct (proper)
6. All cuts, mats, etc., will be furnished by the advertiser unless special arrangements are made with the Editor, in which case all charges must be paid by the advertiser for any additional services.
7. The Specialist reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.
8. Send your copy and payment to the Treasurer:

THOMAS MEEKS

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

**AUCTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS HELD BY THE POSTAL PHILATELIC  
SERVICE (POFIS) IN PRAGUE ON NOV. 15 and 16, 1969  
CONDITIONS AND TERMS OF SALE**

POFIS Auctions will be held regularly at least once yearly. Their purpose is to enable the purchase and sale of top quality stamps under the following conditions:

1. Organizer of these auctions is the Postal Philatelic Service POFIS in Prague.
2. It is possible to consign for sale individual stamps, complete sets, collections, entires, accumulations, collective lots, etc. of the whole world. Material consigned to be sold at this auction is listed in the Catalogue of Sale.
3. The auction is public and will be held at the place published in this Catalogue.
4. Each lot of philatelic material will be sold to the highest bidder at the fall of the hammer. The Auctioneer reserves the right to refuse a bid, to withdraw any lot and to regroup or divide lots. If any dispute arises the Auctioneer may put up the lot again for sale. The Auctioneer is not obliged to keep the sequence given in the Catalogue of Sale.
5. Minimum bid increase shall be:
  - 10.— Kčs up to the sum of 90.— Kčs
  - 20.—Kčs from 100.— to 980.— Kčs
  - 50.—Kčs from 1000.— to 4,950— Kčs
  - 100.— Kčs above the sum of Kčs 5,000.—
6. Both the purchaser and the vendor must pay a 10% commission to the Auctioneer over and above the selling price.
7. Knocking down price plus commission are due at once as far as floor bidders at the auction are concerned. Mail bidders will receive their lots C.O.D. (cash on delivery, collect). If two or more mail bids are identical, the first received shall prevail.
8. In filling out instructions the Auctioneer is obliged to comply with the requests and instructions of the client. The Auctioneer is not liable if the realized selling price is higher than the customer's top bid. Mail bids must clearly indicate the utmost limit the customer is willing to pay for the lot. Bids such as "at the best price" or "in any case" etc. are not entitled to getting the knocking down. In case the bid of a mail bidder and a room bidder is identical, the bid of the room bidder shall prevail.
9. Full descriptions of lots are given in the catalogue. The catalogue prices are approximate, meant solely as a guide. Collections sold as one lot may contain both mint and used stamps.
10. Claims by the buyers can be made only for concealed defects but never for such as margins, perforations, cancellations or defects plainly visible from illustration or the description of same in catalogue.
11. Legal relations, the purpose of which are the purchase and sale of philatelic material at public auctions, are subject to standard regulations. Because of the specific characteristics of stamps, the auction participants are advised to make any claims they might have against the Auctioneers as soon as possible, in their own interests.

These conditions of sale become effective on August 1st, 1969.

**Key to Catalogue Descriptions, Symbols and Abbreviations**

- A—Superb, vivid color, exceptionally wide margins, well centered, perfect perforation, clear, legible cancellation.
- AR—Very fine, a copy in top condition with sufficiently wide margins, perfect perforation, well centered, clear cancellation.

AC—Fine, above average, premium copy in normal condition.

B—Average, normal, average copy. Mint copies with a hinge or with traces after a hinge.

C—Fair, with description of defect.

Stamps issued after 1900 are described as "AC—Fine" or "B—Average" only.

\*\*\*—mint, unused, never hinged

\*\*—unused with traces after a hinge or with one hinge

\*—unused, with traces after several hinges

●—used, cancelled

Editor's Note: "Var" in the Scott column indicates that it is a variety of that particular Scott number. Equivalent of 1 Koruna (Kč) in U. S. dollars and cents is \$0.1389 official rate and \$0.03 free rate. Take your choice!

Lot Number	Condition	Description	Pofis	Est. Val.		Prices
				Scott	Kčs	Realized
1	* C	10K overprint "Pošta Československá 1919" break in upper left corner, Gilbert	82	B57	600	900
2	* CC	Olympic Congress Complete set, short perforations, Gilbert	18-82	B137-139	350	350
3	● B	Olympic Congress on 3 postal cards, commemorative cancellations	180-82	B137-139	400	650
4	● C	VIII Slet, short perfs, heavy canc.	183-86	B140-142	280	340
5	● B	VIII Slet, registered letter, postmarked Prague — Airport	183-86	B140-142	300	440
6	** AC	20 h Coil stamps, block of 6, rare, signed, Mrňák	209	123a	360	820
7	** AC	30 h Coil stamps, block of 6, rare, signed Mrňák	210	124a	360	720
8	* B	40 h imperforate block of 4, signed Gilbert, Type II	253	157var	150	230
9	● B	2, 3, 5, 10 Kč blocks of 4, bottom and top coupon, red postmark	261-64	175-178	100	200
10	*** AC	3 Kč full sheet of 100 with coupons	262	176var	400	400
11	*** AC	5 Kč full sheet of 100 with coupons	263	177var	1500	1500
12	*** AC	10 Kč full sheet of 100 with coupons	264	178var	2800	2800
13	*** AC	1, 2 Kč lower half of sheet, 50 stamps each, with coupons	281-82	200-201	500	540
14	*** C	Music sheets, 1 and 2 Kč, yellowish stains, signed Gilbert	A283-84	200a-201a	2000	3500
15	*** C	1 and 2 Kč strip of 3 from Music Sheet, short perfs., soiled, sig. Gilbert	A283-84	200b-201b	180	200
16	*** AC	1 and 2 Kč from corner of Music Sheet, signed Gilbert	A283-84	200b-201b	130	200
17	*** AC	1 and 2 Kč strip of 3 from bottom of Music Sheet, signed Mrňák	A283-84	200b-201b	450	620
18	*** AC	1 Kč corner block of 4, water mark position 8, Type III	197	105a	120	230
19	** C	5 Kč block of 4, water mark position 8	228	122	170	170
20	**	300 h VIII Slet	186	B142	140	140
21	*** AC	First airmail issue, signed Gilbert, corner blocks of 4, number 3 B off center	1A,2A,3B	C4-C6	3500	—

(To be continued)



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