

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the



Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Recipient of Silver Bronze Award Praga 1968

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Vol. XXXIII

January 1971

Number 209

## Retouches on the 20 h Newspaper Stamps 27 and 28 Falcon in Flight, 1918-1920

By Frantisek Zampach

Translated by Lawrence Huml

On the first two printing plates of the 20-haler newspaper stamp, the vignettes of stamps 27 and 28 in the sheet appeared without any apparent defects or shortcomings. Stamps coming from this pair of plates were still used in the year 1926 as shown by postal cancellations. The final editions of these stamps are distinguished by an already blurred print, evidence of considerable use of the printing plates. Therefore, two new plates were prepared providing the usual characteristic protective frame on the vertical sides and the upper border. The diagonally ruled border of the protective frame was continuous at first. Later, for technical reasons, it was broken in the spaces between horizontal strips of stamps. The new pair of printing plates are distinguished by characteristic defects, some of which were later retouched.

It is on these plates that we first come across the plate markings of colored squares under stamps 91 and 100 in reverse order rather than the later usual order that prevailed till the final edition of these stamps. That is to say, the insertion of the year date 24 is placed under the 91st stamp while the ordinal numbers 1st and 2nd is engraved in squares under the 100th stamp.

The aforementioned plates were utilized in the preparation of the initial die for their further reproduction by electrotyping. This is confirmed by the introduction of the typical defects and retouches which we then encounter on all the remaining plates. Naturally, the complete issue of stamps from these two plates was not printed at one time, as proven by the basic dark blue color, paper and the already mentioned protective frame. The number of printings in 1924 is unknown. According to postal cancellations, stamps of this 1924 annual issue appear as late as 1925. Stamps from the first edition do not show any imperfections in the ornamental wavy lines in the arch of the design between the words CESKO and SLOVENSKA below the tail of the falcon. Not until during later printings does a defect gradually become worse in the right section of both wavy lines so that these, in the end, almost disappear under the sediment of color. Stamps with the almost obliterated wavy lines

make their earliest appearance with postmarks of the year 1926. (Fig. 1)

This disturbing flaw in the appearance of stamps 27 and 28 did not remain unnoticed by the Bureau of Printing and had not been set aside for retouching during still later printings. Retouched stamps did not appear with postal cancellations until the year 1927. (Fig. 2.)

Due to shortage of recorded material of the final issues from plates 1 and 2 of 1924, it was impossible to determine the specific retouches peculiar to each individual printing plate. On plates 1 to 4 of 1931 and plates 1 and 2 of 1934 the design of the wavy lines on the afore-mentioned stamp vignettes remains again normal or standard with the retention of the controlling flaws.

#### Retouch of Wavy Lines on Vignettes of Stamp 27

Stamps of this type are distinguished by a striking characteristic flaw—a white spot in the ruled background to the right of the falcon's beak (Fig. 3a), and a short line crossing the right section of the letter V in SLOVENSKA. Both of these introduced characteristic controlling flaws are common not only to the plates of 1924 but to all other printing plates of this value. The retouches of the defective sections of the wavy line field of stamp 27 are, on both plates of the 1924 issue, naturally different in results. For further explanation, I have indicated the differences under capital letters A and B.

#### RETOUCH A (Fig. 3)

The correction of the wavy line flaw was done quite superficially, resulting in the omission of one of the upper curves of the wavy line, so that, instead of four upper curves, only three appeared after the repair. At the same time, a trace of the fourth lower curve remained quite visible as can be seen on the detailed drawing. (See illustration.)



27 flaw

Figure 1  
28 flaw

27 retouch A

Figure 2  
28 retouch A

**RETOUCH B (Fig. 4)**

In this case the wavy line correction was more successful even if it shows a wavering of the reengraver in the lower curve of the third wave, showing the slipping of the engraver's punch halfway between the second lower and second upper curve. (See illustration.) At the same time, the third lower curve came out markedly non-conforming. (See illustration.)

**Retouch of Wavy Lines on Vignettes of Stamp 28**

The vignette of this stamp is distinguished by a characteristic controlling plate flaw—a short line of color cutting the right section of the letter O in CESKO and a small hooked end in the left leg of the letter M in MUCHA. Likewise, even these controlling flaws are common in all printing plates of this value beginning in 1924. (Fig. 5a.)

**RETOUCH A (Fig. 5)**

This reengraving is similar to that of A27 and was done, on the whole, with some care. The wavy line was retouched with a stronger engraving outline in which the fourth upper curve of the wave came out perceptibly lower. Another controlling defect of this reengraving is a white spot between P and O in POSTA.

**RETOUCH B (Fig. 6)**

This time the repair of the defective wavy line was executed quite successfully, up to the apparent incompleteness of the third upper and fourth lower curve of the wave. Surprising is the non-conforming spiral line ending of the fourth upper curve to the left of A in SLOVENSKA. Controlling flaw—the white spot between the letters P and O is missing.



Figure 3  
27 retouch A



Figure 5  
28 retouch A

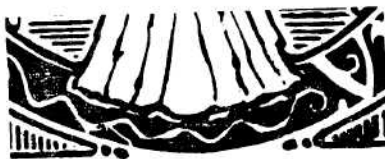


Figure 4  
27 retouch B

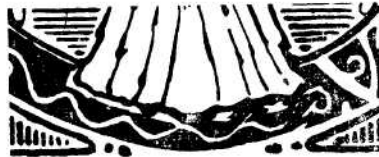


Figure 6  
28 retouch B



Figure 3a  
27 controlling flaw



Figure 5a  
28 controlling flaw

In this descriptive article, the newly discovered and hitherto unpublicized reengravings of stamps 27 and 28 in plates 1 and 2 of 1924 are really interesting examples of repairs to plate flaws arising during printing. In the final phase, these repairs caused the withdrawal of the plates. This fact naturally prevents an accurate accounting of the number of stamps issued and likewise their scarcity, which in turn, prevents a definite estimate of their value.

In conclusion, I want to point out that specializing in early Czechoslovak newspaper stamps while not exactly a popular subject, it is wrong to consider them as uninteresting.

#### An Error In Stamp Design

### Jan Hus—His Philatelic Story

By Clare McAlister

Reprinted from The Fine Arts Philatelist

Errors in stamp designs are not uncommon, but not too many have come from Czechoslovakia, which has produced some of the world's beautiful stamps; so the error on the Jan Hus stamp is notable and worthy of attention.

This 40 heller stamp picturing Master Hus at the stake is one of a series of six issued by Czechoslovakia on April 10, 1967 (Scott #1461) to commemorate the Montreal Exposition. On the right margin of the stamp appears the legend in two languages that the picture derives from the Codex of Jena—and that is the error.

So far as we are aware, this error was first mentioned in an article appearing in the Czechoslovakian philatelic magazine "Filatelie." The error has also been confirmed by Rudolf Fischer, Chief of the Philatelic Department of the Czech Postal and Telecommunications Service.

The design is actually from a hymnal originally in the possession of the choir members of the Litomerice Church. As was pointed out in the article from "Filatelie," both the Hymnal and the Codex are samples of late Gothic book illuminations from the late 1500s and the early 1600s, and both are in the Litomerice Museum. Both were also on exhibit at the Montreal Exhibition. The original picture of this stamp design is painted in watercolor on the parchment paper in the hymnal.

In fact, Hus is pictured twice in the Litomerice hymnal: on the one hand is a full-page illustration, and on the other as decoration for the lower half of a page where the top part is taken up with the music and words of a hymn. It is the latter picture, by an unknown 16th century artist, which appears on the stamp. Just below the name of the country are also a few words of the hymn.

Jan Hus was born about 1369 and became one of the great reformers of his time. Although later accused of being a follower of Wycliffe, he was not a complete adherent. He did insist upon preaching in the vernacular and on restoring the laity's right to take the cup during Mass, so the chalice came to be the symbol of the Hussite movement.

Accused of heresy, Hus was examined, found guilty by the Council of Constance, and burned at the stake in 1415. After his execution the earth was dug up from around the stake and removed, lest his followers have any relics to take back to Bohemia.

The Hussites organized a fierce civil war and Louda, one of their leaders, is shown on the stone bridge in Pisek on Scott #562. This stamp was designed after a charcoal sketch by Mikolas Ales now in the Pisek branch of the National Gallery.

The radical wing of Hus's followers became known as the Taborites.

Tabor, Bohemia, founded in 1420 by the followers of Hus, was the center of the Hussite revolutionary movement. The original military camp was on an eminence above the Luznice River and was named after the Biblical city of Tabor which had been founded on a limestone mountain in Galilee.

The paintings represented by Scott #475-476 are from the Cycle Vlast (Fatherland) painted by Ales for the decoration of the foyer of Prague's National Theater. The Reign of Tabor is #12 in the Cycle and suggests the days when the army of peasants fought against impossible odds.

Zizka, another champion of Hussitism, is shown on #552. It has also been suggested that Trutnov (#563) may be allegorical for Jan Zizka. This stamp is #8 in the Cycle Vlast.

To commemorate the battle in 1420 when the Hussite forces won victory over a large army under Emperor Sigismund, a monumental National Memorial was erected on Prague's Vitkov Height. In front of its entrance, and above the Grave of the Unknown Soldier, stands the large equestrian statue of Jan Zizka shown on Russia #1605.

The portrait of Jan Hus on #534 is after an undetermined source and poses an interesting question concerning his actual appearance. Some representations of him show a tall man with a beard, while others represent him as shorter and clean-shaven. Some medals are said to present both types, with one on the obverse and one on the reverse of the same medal. It has even been mentioned that the numerous statues of St. John of Nepomuk found in Bohemia are really of the bearded Hus.

Bethlehem Chapel (#535), where Hus preached, is in Prague's Old Town. Its large hall was able to accommodate a congregation of 3,000 people. Demolished toward the end of the 18th century, a large part of the masonry and many objects were preserved. It was rebuilt during the period of 1949 to 1954, so that Prague has now a worthy memorial of the Hussite movement.

As the error found on the 1967 stamp directs our attention to this Christian reformer of Bohemia, we wonder if any of those now challenging our way of life will cause such a reformation?

"The Fine Arts Philatelist" is devoted exclusively to fine arts on stamps and is devoid of advertisements. Architecture, cathedrals, churches, archaeology, painters, paintings, sculptors, sculptures, musical phases including opera-composers and opera houses—theater, dance and literature are some of the subjects covered.

Partially illustrated brochure checklists on paintings and painters, music instruments, dance, archaeology and opera are available.

Information concerning all stamps depicting the fine arts and new issues may be found in the Fine Arts Philatelist. Anyone interested may contact John S. Papa, M.D., 1950 N. E. 59th Pl., Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33308, for further details.

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#### CHARLEY'S CORNER

This column will be a first for the Specialist as well as being a first for us. We have never attempted anything like this before, so we sincerely hope all you members are somewhat tolerant of our efforts at first. We hope to improve as time goes by.

Society members, this will be YOUR column. We want to write about your Czechoslovak material so the success or failure of this venture will rest in your hands. Whether your favorites are rarities, oddities, varieties, covers, etc., we want to feature them in this column. Every collector has several pieces that he treasures and this is what this column will be all about, so please don't be bashful to let us hear from you.

Just write a paragraph or two about the particular item and with it send a photograph suitable for reproduction in the Specialist. If you can't supply a photograph, then merely send the item to me by registered mail and I will have it photographed. As soon as the photo is finished, I'll mail it back by registered mail.

We don't want to get into any lengthy articles on any one item, these are for the feature articles in the Specialist, but we want to endeavor to get all the important facts on the item so if I can possibly add anything to the article, I hope you will allow me to do so.

We are attempting here to acquaint all the collectors with all the interesting material that exists in the field of Czechoslovak philately. We want to write about your items whether they come from Czechoslovakia, Eastern Silesia, Slovakia, Bohemia-Moravia, Field Posts, forerunners, or any other related material to Czechoslovakia.

I have in my own collection several interesting items that I purchased under \$5.00, so we are not only looking for rarities in this column. A little background on how you acquired the item and why you treasure it may also prove interesting.

Send your articles and photos to Charley Chesloe, P. O. Box 237, Willow Springs, Ill. 60480.

I want to thank the Council and the Editorial Board of the Specialist for giving us this opportunity and we hope we can be worthy of their trust.

See you next month.

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**STAMP MARKET TIPS — by John G. Ross**  
Reprinted from Stamps

Over the last few months I have noticed an increasing number of advertisements in European philatelic magazines, all wanting to buy HINGED stamps only. After making several inquiries in the hope that the European collector finally changed his mind, I have come to the conclusion that this is not the case. Europe is still in a business slump, and this is the reason dealers are advertising in this fashion. They want to buy stamps at a lower price rather than advertise for "never hinged" so that the "hinges" are used only as a subterfuge in order to obtain material at a cheaper price. Moreover, I have been told that these stamps are being regummed, thanks to recently perfected methods. The job is so well done as to defy detection. As I have said before, if you like your "never hinged," so be it, but NEVER pay a large premium for that extravagance. European magazines are full of ads wanting to regum your stamps, and they guarantee an almost perfect job, meaning that you just cannot tell the difference.

I have just returned from my annual stamp and coin safari through Europe, where I visited many countries. In spite of the general slowdown of economic conditions over the world, I found the stamp business to be affected only very slightly. Dealers in Europe are quite satisfied with business conditions, and good stamps are very difficult to find.

On this trip I had the opportunity to have a closer look at one of the many "laboratories" in which stamps are regummed. The demand for "never hinged" stamps is still great in Germany, but I never realized that regumming has become such "big business." One laboratory employs nine people, some opening the mail, but most of them working, as the gentleman said, "To beautify your stamps." Naturally, his process is a great secret and I was not actually permitted to watch how it was done. As I have mentioned before, if you like your stamps "never hinged" and are able to get them that way, this is wonderful! But NEVER pay a large premium for that extravagance.



## NEW ISSUES

### Day of the Czechoslovak Postage Stamp



The Federal Committee of Czechoslovak Post and Telecommunications in Prague issued a Commemorative stamp of Kčs 1.00 to mark the Day of the Czechoslovak Postage Stamp on December 18, 1969.

The design of the stamp is the work of the Academic painter Jaroslav Lukavský, the engraving of Ladislav Jirka. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 49x19 mm. The design shows the symbol of stamps and of the postal system. The stamp has been printed by the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure, in sheets of 50 stamps. The colors are: black, blue and golden. A bicolored first day cover designed by J. Lukavský and engraved by J. Goldschmied, showing the same symbol as the stamp has been issued.

### World Ski Championship—High Tatras 1970



On January 6, 1970, the Federal Committee of Post and Telecommunications issued a series of commemorative stamps entitled "World Ski Championship—High Tatras 1970." The set includes the following four stamps:

- 50h—High Tatras 1970—World Ski Championship—Ski jump and judges stand  
Colors: black, red, blue, violet
- 60h—High Tatras 1970—World Ski Championship—Cross country event  
Colors: black, blue, green, violet
- 1.00 Kčs—High Tatras 1970—World Ski Championship—Ski jump  
Colors: black, blue, red, silver
- 1.60 Kčs—High Tatras 1970—World Ski Championship—Woman skier  
Colors: black, blue, pink, ochre

The High Tatras are Czechoslovakia's most beautiful mountain range. Collectors will find them on the four-Koruna stamp issued in 1925 and on others which have appeared since 1945—some of them publicizing winter sports but others simply portraying mountain scenery in winter and in summer or devoted to the flora and fauna of the Tatra National Park.

In the first Czechoslovak set of four commemoratives to be issued in 1970 the Post Office returns to the High Tatras to salute the world skiing championships.

The stamps were designed by Jaroslav Lukavský and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

They were printed at the Post Printing Office by rotary recess print combined with three-color photogravure in sheets of 25. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 49x30 mm.

Two First Day Covers with pictures of the large and small ski jumps and snow flakes were issued with the stamps. They too were designed by J. Lukavský and engraved by J. Goldschmied.



On February 16, 1970, the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued two stamps of the following denominations:

- 50h—portrait of Ludvík Svoboda, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Color, dark green
- 1 Kčs—Portrait of Ludvík Svoboda, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Color, dark red

Both stamps are printed from original engraved plates of stamps issued on May 9, 1968 designed and engraved after a photo-portrait by Jindra Schmidt.

Dimensions of the central design of both stamps are 19x23 mm. They were printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print in sheets of 100 stamps.

The stamps are valid for internal and international postal use from February 16, 1970, until further notice.

#### World Anniversaries of Personalities—UNESCO

On February 17, 1970, the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications in Prague issued an emission of stamps commemorating "World Anniversaries of personalities—UNESCO." These are six stamps of the following denominations:

- 40h—Vladimir Iljič Lenin, 1870-1970, 100th Anniversary of Birthday. Color, red.
- 40h—Frederik Engels, 1820-1970, 150th Anniversary of Birthday. Color, red.
- 40h—Josef Mánes, 1820-1970. 150th Anniversary of Birthday. Color, brown.
- 40h—Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1970. 200th Anniversary of Birthday. Color, dark grey.





40h—Maxmilian Hell, 1720-1970, 250th Anniversary of Birthday. Color, brown.  
 40h—J. A. Komenský (Comenius). 1670-1970. 300th Anniversary of Death.  
 Color, dark-grey.

The first marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (1870-1924), the founder of the Russian Bolshevik Party.

The 150th anniversary of the birth of the painter Josef Manes is commemorated by the third stamp. This most celebrated member of a family of Czech artists lived from 1820 to 1871.

His short life was an extremely productive one, and he influenced a whole generation of painters and sculptors.

Two commemoratives recall Josef Manes. One appeared in November, 1953; his painting "Josefina," was reproduced on the second most popular Czechoslovak stamp of 1968.

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) will be remembered throughout the world this year, which is the 200th anniversary of his birth. His portrait appears on the stamp.

It has been said of the Czechs that they were always "a nation of musicians," and their country was visited—and is still visited—by some of the world's greatest musicians, who found it favorable to creative work. Beethoven was no exception. He visited Prague, Teplice spa, Hradec u Opavy, and Slovakia.

Collectors will find Beethoven's portrait on earlier Czechoslovak stamps: twice in the commemorative set issued to mark the "Prague Spring" International Music Festival in 1952.

The fifth stamp in the set recalls the 250th anniversary of the birth of Maxmilian Hell (1720-1792) of whom one can read in the encyclopedia that he

was a celebrated astronomer, a Catholic priest of the Jesuit order, and the founder of the first observatory in Vienna, but not that he was a Slovak.

The sixth stamp commemorates the 300th anniversary of the death of the "Teacher of Nations," the philosopher and educator Jan Amos Comenius, known throughout the world as the founder of modern educational theory.

He was born in 1592 in Moravia, but like many intellectuals of his time was forced to go into exile. In Naarden, Holland, where he died on November 15, 1670, his tomb which is jointly maintained by Czechoslovakia and Holland is one of the spots more frequently visited by foreign tourists.

Comenius's portrait appeared first on a Czechoslovak stamp in 1936, again on two commemoratives in 1952, issued to mark the 360th anniversary of his birth, and in 1957 on the occasion of the 300th anniversary.

All the stamps display the text "UNESCO." The stamps were designed by professor Karel Svolinský, National Artist, and engraved by Ladislav Jirka. The emission was printed by the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print in sheets of 50 stamps. Dimensions of the pictures are 23x41 mm. With each stamp a First Day Cover was issued with an inscription pertinent to the commemorated anniversary of the respective personality and his initials. The covers were designed by K. Svolinský and engraved by M. Ondráček.

The stamps are valid for internal and international postal use from February 17, 1970, until further notice.

#### EXPO '70 Osaka

Japan, the "land of the rising sun," is the next host to a world exposition, the first being Belgium (Brussels) and the second Canada (Montreal). Expo '70 will be held in Osaka, port in the south of Honshu Island with a population of more than three million and Japan's second largest city. It is also a center of business and industry. The proverbial organizational abilities and zeal of the Japanese is a guarantee that their country will prove a worthy host to Expo '70.

"Progress and Harmony for Mankind" is Expo '70's main theme and Czechoslovakia's participation is likewise in line with this motto, just as it was at each of the preceding expos. Similarly it is also issuing a series of commemorative postage stamps to commemorate this event, the same as in 1958 and 1967. The stamps were designed by Karel Vodák, who already has several emissions of Czechoslovak commemoratives to his credit, one of them being that dedicated to the Montreal Expo. Before discussing the subject matter of the stamps, let us first take a look at the script thereon. Besides the name of the country of origin and the denomination each of the six stamps bears the official name of the exhibition written in the Roman alphabet and Japanese script. Philatelists will doubtless be interested by the fact that the Japanese inscription has in it the number 45 for the Japanese observe the tradition of marking the date according to the age of the reigning emperor. A second item of interest is the graphic symbol of the bottom left of each stamp before the inscription depicting the sun covered partially with the leaf of a linden tree. This is Czechoslovakia's official emblem for Expo '70. The First Day covers are stamped with the official emblem of the exhibition.

And now a few words about the subject matter of the stamps. The first depicts three bells, calling to mind the traditional Bohemian art of bell casting. Casting a bell, usually in bronze, decorating it with inscriptions and ornament, and fitting it with a clapper isn't all. Giving it a voice, one that distinguishes



it from other bells, that is the rare and special art of this profession.

The second stamp depicts Czechoslovakia's highly advanced engineering, showing part of a technical drawing and a detail of a giant SIU lathe made by the famous SKODA Works in Plzeň.

The third stamp shows two wooden beehives, the kind carved from tree trunks by woodcarvers in Slovakia in bygone days. These hives resemble heads—often ingenious caricatures. The mouths were the opening through which the bees entered and left the hive.

The fourth stamp shows a detail of a historic icon (type DEESIS) from East Slovakia, which in the region about Bardejov has a Greek Orthodox population. Icons, religious pictures, are the object of study by art historians and a sphere of fine art wherein folk art is most pronounced.

The fifth stamp depicts a drawing made in 1787 by František Karel Wolf (1765-1816), Czech graphic artist who made his name with his topographic albums. The picture shows Orlik Castle, located on the left bank of the Vltava River in South Bohemia. It was founded in the 13th century and contains valuable historic and art collections. Today the castle, which once stood on a high cliff, rises out of the water of a dam lake, one of a series of such dams on the Vltava.

The sixth and last stamp is dedicated to the country hosting Expo '70, namely Japan. It presents one of a cycle of 36 graphic sheets showing Fujiyama. Kacuška Hakusai (1760-1816), the author, was an outstanding graphic artist and woodcutter who created an extraordinarily vast work, the peak of the old tradition of Japanese art.

In conclusion it should be pointed out that the six stamps of the Expo '70 series form two groups of three, differing not only in format but also in the number of colors and printing technique. Two techniques are used to print these Czechoslovak stamps, namely rotary recess print combined with multi-color photogravure as well as multicolor flat recess print. The second group of three is unusual in that the stamps are of the same dimensions as the annual Czechoslovak "Art" series (40x50 mm) but with the width greater than the height, thus creating the illusion of different size.

Three First Day Covers, designed by K. Vodák and engraved by J. Goldschmied, were issued with the series. All have the same motif—the Japanese and Czechoslovak national flags with the EXPO '70 official emblem in between.

On March 13, 1970 the Czechoslovak Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a series of six commemorative stamps entitled "Expo '70 Osaka."

- 50h—Expo '70 Osaka. Bells. Engraved by Ladislav Jirka. Colors: black, red, blue, yellow.
- 80h—Expo '70 Osaka. Engineering. Engraved by Jan Mráček. Colors: black, yellow, blue, pink.
- 1.00 Kčs—Expo '70 Osaka. Wooden folk sculptures—beehives. Engraved by Jindra Schmidt. Colors: black, green, violet.
- 1.60 Kčs—Expo '70 Osaka. Angel and Saints—detail of icon from the late 17th century near Bardejov. Engraved by Bedřich Housa. Colors: black-brown, yellow, red, brown-red, dark blue.
- 2.00 Kčs—Expo '70 Osaka. Orlik Castle 1787 by F. K. Wolf 1765-1836, Prague National Gallery. Engraved by Josef Herčík. Colors: black, yellow, red, blue, grey.
- 3.00 Kčs—Expo '70 Osaka. View of Fujiyama by Kacuška Hokusai 1760-1849. Engraved by Josef Herčík. Colors: black, blue, brown, green, ochre.

The stamps were designed by Karel Vodák and printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague as follows: the first, second and third by rotary recess print combined with multicolor photogravure in sheets of 50 (dimensions of stamp picture 40x23 mm), the fourth, fifth and sixth by five-color flat recess print in sheets of 4 (dimensions of stamp picture 50x40 mm).

#### Signing of the Košice Government Program 1945-1970

On April 5, 1970, the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a commemorative stamp entitled "Signing of the Košice Government Program 1945-1970."

The stamp, which is of the 60h denomination, was designed by prof. Anton



Holíý of Bratislava and engraved by Josef Herčík. The Košice Program, which ensured a program of socialization for Czechoslovakia immediately after the war ended, was the work of the Communist Party, and its author was the country's second post-war president, Klement Gottwald. It was proclaimed in the Slovak regional town of Košice on April 5, 1945, while the western area of Czechoslovakia and its capital city were still occupied by units of the Wehrmacht. This is the first time the Košice Program has been commemorated on a Czechoslovak postage stamp; however, the economic results of this program have been remembered—in a series commemorating the announcement of the Two-Year Plan issued on January 1, 1947. The subject of the stamp picture is the building where the Košice government program was signed, the Czechoslovak state emblem and a spring with ribbon. The stamp was printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in grey-blue, gold and red. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 33x33 mm and there are 35 stamps to a sheet.

A First Day Cover designed by A. Holíý and engraved by J. Goldschmied was issued with the stamp. Depicted on the FDC is the Czechoslovak national flag, the High Tatras and swallow.

The stamp is valid in internal and international postal use from April 5, 1970, until further notice.

#### AMOUNTS OF NEW ISSUES RELEASED IN 1969

Translated and compiled by George A. Blizil

For those interested in noting the number of stamps comprising Czechoslovakia's New Issues for 1969, the following information was released by the Ministry of Posts in Prague.

	Issue	Amount	
50th Ann. Red Cross	60h	4,320,000	
	1 Kc.	2,970,000	
International Labor Org.	1 Kc.	5,780,000	
Ancient Firearms	30h	5,757,000	
	40h	5,502,000	
	60h	5,964,000	
	1 Kc.	3,087,000	
	1.40 Kcs.	4,007,000	
	1.60 Kcs.	1,389,000	
Anniversaries	60h	Brno University	6,255,000
	60h	Komensky University	5,525,000
	60h	Brno Conservatory	5,870,000

	60h	Slovak Teater -----	5,065,000
	60h	Slovak Council -----	6,015,000
	60h	Znieve College -----	6,040,000
Historical Automobiles	30h	-----	5,295,000
	1.60 Kcs.	-----	3,725,000
	1.80 Kcs.	-----	550,000
Guderna's Painting	1.60 Kcs.	-----	1,291,000
Horses	30h	-----	5,345,000
	80h	-----	4,387,000
	1.60 Kcs.	-----	3,012,000
	1.80 Kcs.	-----	2,245,000
	2.40 Kcs.	-----	500,000
Stafanik Ann.	60h	-----	7,710,000
Prague Castle Series	3 Kcs.	Flag -----	425,000
	3 Kcs.	Wine Pressing -----	456,000
Caricatures	30h	Hviezodslav -----	10,305,000
	40h	Chesterton -----	5,275,000
	60h	Majakovskij -----	8,545,000
	1 Kc.	Matisse -----	3,545,000
	1.80 Kcs.	Hrdlicka -----	2,835,000
	2 Kcs.	Kafka -----	540,000
Alfons Mucha	30h	-----	5,707,000
	60h	-----	4,552,000
	1 Kc.	-----	4,642,000
	2.40 Kcs.	-----	576,000
Man on the Moon	60h	-----	2,855,000
	3 Kcs.	-----	448,000
Slovak Uprising	30h	-----	6,615,000
Battle of Dukla	30h	-----	5,533,000
Tatra National Park	60h	Ganek Peak -----	4,771,000
	60h	Cold Valley -----	4,008,000
	60h	White-water Valley -----	4,587,000
	1.60 Kcs.	Frozen Valley -----	522,000
	1.60 Kcs.	Field Barns -----	530,000
	1.60 Kcs.	Mountain Stream -----	431,000
Archeological Discoveries	20h	-----	5,837,000
	30h	-----	7,147,000
	1 Kc.	-----	3,642,000
	1.80 Kcs.	-----	1,172,000
	2 Kcs.	-----	507,000
U. P. U. Congress	3.20 Kcs.	-----	541,000
Coat of Arms	50h	Kezmarok -----	4,495,000
	50h	Hranice -----	4,735,000
	50h	Krnov -----	4,700,000
	50h	Bardejov -----	3,730,000
	50h	Manetine -----	4,470,000
	50h	Literomice -----	4,245,000
Art Series	60h	-----	574,000
	1 Kc.	-----	554,000
	1.60 Kcs.	-----	590,000
	1.80 Kcs.	-----	522,000
	2.20 Kcs.	-----	500,000
Day of the Czech. Post. Stamp	1 Kc.	-----	400,000

In the same news release on 1969 issues, the final figures on the 1968 President Svoboda issue were also given. They are 30h, 33,960,000; and 60h, 41,370,000.



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