

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the  Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Recipient of Silver Bronze Award Praga 1968

Editor:

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

Assistant Editor:

William V. Schaenig, 20 Charles Ct., East Patchogue, N. Y. 11772

Copyright 1971 The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Vol. XXXIII

February 1971

Number 310

The Painter Josef Lada



The whole world knows Josef Schweik, chief character of Jaroslav Hašek's humoristic novel of the First World War. The original illustrations of this book, and above all, the typical figure of the "good soldier Schweik," are well known. The artist of these illustrations was the Czech painter Josef Lada. Not only painter, but also illustrator of numerous other books, caricaturist, stage designer, and author of animated films, as well as writer and

outstanding narrator, his tales were intended primarily for children.

The typical characteristic of Josef Lada the painter, honored with the title National Artist, is his compact abbreviation of line based on folk humor, folk wisdom, the depiction of scenes from the life of ordinary folk, children's games and merrymaking. His Bohemian landscapes are picturesque with villages dominated by the country church with its typical steeple, ponds edged with willows, gently rolling fields, and in the background the dark green of forests. His illustrations of fairytales, nursery rhymes and gay tales about children and animals have the poetry of a child's heart, a gentle smile and sparkling gaiety.

It was difficult to select only four from his many pictures and drawings for reproduction in stamp form. The final choice included two hitherto unreproduced pictures belonging to his family—variations of Lada's most popular motifs—which are depicted on the 60h and 2.40 Kčs stamps, and two book illustrations with fairy-tale motifs, depicted on the 1 Kčs and 1.80 Kčs stamps. They present us with an autumn landscape and children—small shepherds around a fire with a picturesque village in the background, a fairy-tale hero on a winged horse, a water goblin sitting on a willow by a mill mending his shoe, and a group of children making merry in winter. The motif on First Day Cover is a winter landscape and that on the other the delightful figure of a night watchman and his dog.

This, then, is a series that is a small, select gallery of the most typical of Josef Lada's works. Not only do they reveal a remarkably expressive artistic inventiveness and erudition, but they also tell us something about Lada the man who had a great love for his Bohemian landscapes filled with colorful figures. This lover of nature and man doubtless had a smile on his face as he drew the lines of his pictures with a firm hand and as he filled them in with bright colors. Josef Lada learned much from the work of the Czech painter Mikoláš Aleš (1852-1913), but he was not another Aleš, just as no one can be another Lada. His inimitable artistic personality is forever stamped in the memory of connoisseurs and ordinary admirers. Children in particular are bewitched by the books filled with Lada's pictures—that dog, that snowman, those children with their red noses sliding on the frozen pond and that goat, why it's laughing . . . There's no end to these pictures! Who can count them all!

Perhaps it is also a certain vogue amongst philatelists to collect stamps depicting paintings of various periods and various genres. A vogue is a passing thing but a true work of art is here forever. And that is why the stamps with four attractive pictures by the Czech painter Josef Lada will remain a permanent attraction in the philatelist's album.

On April 21, 1970, the Czechoslovak Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of four commemorative stamps entitled "The Painter Josef Lada."

60 h — Josef Lada 1887-1957. Autumn—1955. Gouache. Colors: black, yellow, red, blue.

1,00 Kčs — The Magic Sword (The Remarkable Horse) 1926. Colored drawing (B. Němcová: Czech Tales). Colors: black, yellow, red, blue.

1,80 Kčs — Water Goblin — 1953. Colored drawing (J. Lada: Ghouls and Water Goblins). Colors: black, yellow, red, blue.

2,40 Kčs — Children in Winter — 1943. Gouache. Colors: black, yellow, red, blue.

The graphic design of the set is by Prof. Jaroslav Šváb, Meritorious Artist, and the engravings by Jindra Schmidt.

The stamps were printed at the Prague Post Printing Office by rotary recess print combined with three-color photogravure in sheets of 50.

The dimensions of the stamp picture are 49x30 mm for 60h and 1.80 Kčs stamps and 30x49 mm for the 1 and 2.40 Kčs stamps.

Two First Day Covers designed by J. Sváb and engraved by J. Goldschmied were issued with the set. They depict two drawings by J. Lada, namely "Winter Landscape" and "Night Watchman."



100th Anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin

On April 22, 1970, the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of commemorative postage stamps entitled "100th Anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin."

30 h— V. I. Lenin 1870-1970. Portrait. The portrait, made on the basis of a photograph, is by Ladislav Jirka. Colors: red and gold.

60 h — V. I. Lenin 1870-1970. Portrait. Portrait by Milan Hegar. Engraved by Josef Herčík. Colors: black and gold.

The stamps were printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 23x40 mm.

A First Day Cover with an inscription pertaining to the said anniversary was issued with the set. The F.D.C. was designed by Milan Hegar and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied. The stamps are valid in internal and international postal use from April 22, 1970 until further notice.

25th Anniversary



On May 3, 1970 the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of commemorative stamps dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Prague Uprising and the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet army. The set comprises the following two stamps.

30 h — 25th Anniversary of the Prague Uprising. A symbolic drawing showing fighters at the barricades, Prague architecture and a hand raised in a pledge. Engraved by Josef Herčík. Colors: dark carmine, blue and gold.

30 h — 25th Anniversary of the Liberation of Czechoslovakia. Symbolic drawing with Soviet tankists, lilacs and an accordion, and a Prague architecture motif. Engraved by Josef Herčík. Colors: dark green, red, gold.

The two war era 30 haleru stamps are in the series "25th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia" and recall the Prague uprising of May, 1945.

The first features a stylized drawing which shows fighters on the barricades protecting Hradčany from the Nazis and a laurel twig with a legend, "We will never forget."

The second stamp recalls the arrival of Soviet tanks in Prague May 9, four days after the May 4 and 5 uprising. The stamp shows a group of enthusiastic citizens greeting the Soviet liberators with the silhouettes of Hradčany and the Little Quarter bridge. As a symbol of joy a harmonica (popular instrument of Soviet tankers) and a bit of flowering lilac whose blossoms welcomed the Soviet troops, are shown.

The stamps were designed by Frantisek Gross, Meritorious Artist, and printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. The dimensions of the picture on the stamps are 49x19 mm.

The First Day Cover, designed by F. Gross and engraved by Miloš Ondráček, was issued with the set. The motif depicted on the FDC is a symbolic drawing of a flame, laurel twig and the rising sun.

The stamps are valid in internal and international postal use from May 5, 1970, until further notice.



Prague Castle

The Federal Committee for Post and Telecommunication presented a series of commemorative postage stamps "Prague Castle" on May 7th, 1970.

3 Kčs — Prague Castle—A Church Treasure—the Bust of St. Vitus—1486.

Engraver: Jindra Schmidt. Colors: red-brown, yellow, red, blue, grey

3 Kčs — Prague Castle—The White Tower—Hermes and Athena, Bartholomy Springer 1546-1611. Engraver Josef Herčík. Colors: yellow, red, brown, blue, black-brown.

The second pair of these stamps have a face value of three Crowns each and in common with their predecessors in the "Prague Castle" series are of large format. They are the work of Jindra Schmidt and Josef Herčík. Stamp collectors will no doubt recall the earlier stamps in this series which has been enlarged each year since 1964.

These differ in presenting, for the first time, works of art from parts of the Castle which are not open to the public. On one, executed by Jose Herčík, we see the ceiling Hermes and Athena by Bartholomey Spranger (1546-1625), court painter to Emperor Rudolf II, well-known as an art-lover and collector. Spranger finished this painting in 1585 or thereabouts. A detail from it appears on the first-day cover. The picture was recently restored.

Jindra Schmidt portrays on the other stamp the gold-silver-platinum bust of St. Vitus made in 1486 by the goldsmith Vaclav of Budejovice.

This bust is part of the St. Vitus Cathedral treasure, preserved in the very center of the Castle. Another piece belonging to the Cathedral treasure is pictured on the first-day cover, a golden bust of St. Ludmila.

Since its inception the "Prague Castle" series has been among the most beautiful of Czechoslovak stamps, and these two additions continue the high level.

The stamps were designed by the named engravers. Printed by the Prague Printing Office in 5-color flat recess print in sheets of 4. Dimensions of the stamp picture is 40x50 mm.

Two First Day Covers were printed with the series. One has a drawing of St. Ludmilla according to the silver bust dating from the 14th century, the other a detail from the painting by B. Springer—the head of Athena. The covers were designed and engraved by J. Schmidt and J. Herčík.



25th Anniversary of the United Nations

The Czechoslovak postal administration is one that does not neglect to commemorate memorable anniversaries outside the confines of its native land with a small but expressive stamp picture. In line with this concept it issued on June 26, 1970, a commemorative postage stamp dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations Organization. This set links up with a number of preceding series dealing either with the United Nations Organization itself or with the activities of its various organizations, e.g. prominent world personalities commemorated by UNESCO and the like. In June 1965 Czechoslovakia issued three stamps—one honoring the 20th anniversary of the founding of the UN, the second dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter and the third commemorating the Year of International Cooperation proclaimed by the UN on its twentieth anniversary. The subject matter of all the stamps was selected from the themes recommended by the UN.

This year's stamp of 1 Kčs denomination is distinctive already by virtue of its format and the picture is an independent work of art by the painter Jaroslav Lukavský. Presented on the elongate stamp (70x33 mm) is a symbolic drawing with a compass and architectural views of world cities. The

careful observer will find in the left-hand side part of the UN complex in New York. The stamp was printed by rotary recess print combined with photo-gravure in four colors: dark blue, red, yellow and gold. Each stamp sheet comprises 15 stamps with a vertical column of five coupons measuring 33x33 mm on the right hand edge. The coupon bears the official UN emblem and the date 1945-1970. This emblem, placed inside a compass, appears also on the First Day Cover that was issued with the stamp.

Special note should be taken of the inscription on the stamp and on the First Day Cover. The abbreviated UN title appears in Czech, English, Russian, French, Chinese and Spanish. The all-world significance of this anniversary is further emphasized by the several-language text on the First Day Cover. The stamp was engraved by Bedřich Housa, the FDC by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

The Czechoslovak commemorative stamp honoring the 25th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations Organizations wishes to contribute its share to promoting understanding and cooperation among the countries of all continents.



Historical Firearms

When last year the Czechoslovak postal authorities issued a set of stamps depicting historical pistols and revolvers as well as soldiers in period uniforms, many stamp collectors appreciated the originality of this combination of themes.

They will undoubtedly judge the same about this year's historical firearms set which substantially differs from the 1969 issue in terms of caliber of the arms portrayed. This time it is not pistols and revolver but cannons and field guns.

The 30 heller stamp depicts a field cannon from the "30-Years' War" and a close-up of its fire chamber and barrel. Next to them is Baron Munchausen traveling on a ball. The jolly adventures of Karl Friedrich Hieronym, Baron of Munchausen during his trips, hunting expeditions and in various battles served as the theme for fantastic and ironical stories by German author R. E. Raspe. The best known of these stories are contained in the eighth and ninth volumes of his book "Vademecum fur listige Leute" (1781-1783), in the chapter called "M-h-s-nschen Geschichten." As is known, Raspe translated this work into English and published it in 1785 in London. A year later, another German author G. Burger, published his own free version of the same book, under the title "Des Freiherrn von M. wunderbare Reisen und Abenteuer."

The 60h stamp shows a fortress gun from 1556, Hussite bombards and a grape-shot from the middle of the last century. Part of the stamp picture is also a portrait of St. Barbara who became a Christian in defiance of the wish of her pagan father Dioscorus. When Dioscorus learned the news he took her to the prefect of the province who condemned her to death from her own father's hands. On his way back from the execution during which he had beheaded Barbara with his own sword, Dioscorus was struck by lightning. All this is said to have happened in the days of Roman emperor Maximin (A. D. 235-238). It is probably because of the punishment inflicted on her father and because of the heavenly protection rendered her by lightning that since those days St. Barbara has been venerated as the patroness of artillerymen. In earlier days, her picture used to be hung over the chamber with gunpowder on French and Spanish ships. This chamber itself was called 'Barbara' by artillerymen.

The 1.20 Koruna depicts a field cannon from 1866, known mainly for its employment by the Austrian army in the battle at Hradec Kralove, where the army suffered a crushing defeat from the invading Prussian units. The Czech text accompanying the picture of the Austrian artilleryman repeats the words of a popular song about how "he stood by his cannon—and charged and charged . . ." (even when he had lost both his arms and legs). This song about artilleryman Jaburek (a tragicomical predecessor and, in a way, opposite of Schweik) is a satire on senseless military drill and almanac legends on heroic deeds spread by means of similar annual fair songs. Yet it is a historical fact that Czech artillerymen saved with this self-sacrifice in the battle of Sadova (near Hradec Karlove) on July 3, 1866, the fleeing Austrian army from total destruction. This event is still being reminded to the present generation by a memorial on the Chlum hill, called "The Battery of the Dead."

On the 1.80Kčs stamp is a 30.5cm mortar from 1911. Besides that, the signature in the right bottom corner and the picture in the right half of the stamp together with the Czech text "From the Earth to the Moon" recall the famous work of Jules Verne (1828-1905). The author of such fantastic novels that many of his fantastic dreams had instigated the effort of various inventors to such an extent that Verne himself lived to see some of his ideas realized. The three men in front of the silhouette of the Moon are the heroes from his cosmic ship, Ardante, Barbicane and Nicholle. Today, when man has finally left his footprints on the Moon, it is interesting to recall such details from Verne's book as that he makes his Moon rocket start from Florida's Cape Canaveral and splash down on its return trip in the Atlantic. Even in this respect his fantastic vision has become true, not to mention the fact that his

hero, Barbicane, is an American, like the one who recently first stepped on the Moon.

The 2.40Kčs depicts a 75mm mountain cannon from 1915—the second year of the First World War. It is quite obvious that the most suitable character to accompany this picture is Jaroslav Hasek's Good Soldier Schweik. Yes, it's the Good Soldier Schweik depicted by Josef Lada beside just such a gun. Schweik, whose unforgettable cry not to shoot because "there are people here" is the cry of all humanity against war, cruel war that kills people and destroys material and cultural values.

Academic painter Vladimír Kovářík, who also designed last year's series, presents here cannons which have long since turned cold for all time. And that is how it should be. All things historical, however, are worth studying both for the purpose of learning as well as for simple pleasure. The more modern and technical man is, the more he is surrounded at home and at work by things mechanical and automated, the more he longs, at least with part of his being, to return to the past, to the calm and simple life of prior generations. And so it has now practically become a world fashion to have in one's home not only antique pieces of furniture and several period household utensils, but also old weapons, ranging from swords via rapiers to pistols, and as far as possible duelling pistols. Just as great an interest is shown in old hunting arms. However, to get one's hands on a historical gun such as a cannon is no easy matter and so philatelists have an indubitable advantage—they can have these historical firearms in their collections without their taking up too much space. With magnifying glass in hand they can study and take pleasure in them to their heart's content, the kind of pleasure only a philatelist can have from a successful set of stamps.

On August 31, 1970, the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of commemoratives entitled "Historical Firearms," and comprising the following stamps:

- 30 h — Field gun from the Hussite Wars. Chamber and barrel. Baron Munchausen on a cannonball. Colors: black, yellow, blue, pink.
- 60 h — Hussite bombards. Cannon 1556. Cartouche—first half of the 19th century. St. Barbara. Colors: black, yellow, blue, red.
- 1,20 Kčs — Field gun. By the cannon he stood . . . Hradec Králové 1866. Colors: black, yellow, blue, red.
- 1,80 Kčs — Mortar, calibre 30.5 mm, 1911. Jules Verne—Trip from the Earth to the Moon. La Colombiad—Ardan, Barbicane, Nicholl. Colors: black, yellow, blue, violet.
- 2,40 Kčs — Mountain gun, 75 mm, 1915. Good Soldier Schweik. Colors: black, yellow, blue, green.

The stamps were designed by Vladimír Kovářík and engraved by Josef Herčík. They were printed at the Post Printing Office in Prague by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 25. The dimensions of the stamp picture are 49x30 mm.

Three First Day Covers designed by V. Kovářík and engraved by J. Goldschmied were issued with the set. The motifs depicted on the FDCs are Baron Munchausen, a group of soldiers, and soldiers beside a cannon.

WASHINGTON BRANCH

Meets every first Saturday, 8 p.m., at the home of its chairman, Henry Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor Lane, Fairfax, Va. 22030. For additional information, write Henry at the above address.

Czechoslovak Judaica

By Karel Lipa

In the last few years there has appeared in philatelic magazines, auctions and the like, a new topical: Judaica. It is not yet exactly decided what all belongs to this field and it probably will not be solved in the near future. Recently a government crisis arose in Israel when one modern judge wanted to bring more light to this question but at the end all remained unchanged, i.e., unclear. So for us philatelists it will be the best to recognize as Judaica only such items which are directly in connection with Jews.

There are collectors who pay attention only to philatelic stamps and covers in Palestine before the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. Other collectors collect only stamps from the war, from concentration camps and ghettos. And finally of course, stamps of all states, which have a Jewish motive or honor a Jewish personality. To this category belong Czechoslovak Judaica.

Czechoslovak Judaica is beginning to enjoy great interest. It is supposed that the first such stamps and sheet were issued March 7, 1938—President Masaryk and the girl in Native Costume. This girl, named Eva Neugebauerová is believed to have been of Jewish origin.

Of course no article on this subject would be adequate without mentioning the parcel stamp for Terezin during World War II. Good preserved stamps from packets are very rare and there are many forgeries. After the war Czechoslovakia issued many stamps and Judaica also appeared: the 1957 stamps for Ferdinand Laub, although here again his origin is not clear and in 1959 for Heinrich Hertz, inventor. Whether the stamp issued in 1965 in memory of the 20th Anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp at Terezin belongs to Judaica, is disputable.

Then we have the great Czechoslovak new issue sensation of 1967. The lengthy story about the Jewish Relics stamps is not in this article as it is amply told in both the philatelic and Jewish press. Three years after the issue we can say, that ironically Communist Czechoslovakia became famous among Judaica collectors. The First Day Covers of these six stamps are very desirable among post-war First Day Covers collectors.

The last Czechoslovak Judaica are the three stamps issued in 1968—the paintings of Jewish children. These paintings were found after the war in Terezin Ghetto. And the caricature of Franz Kafka (with Jewish cemetery behind), issued in 1969.

To the Czech-Judaica belong also the original coupons on some Czechoslovak stamps, i.e., Zborov, Masaryk of 1935 and others with inscription "Dražební síň poštovních známek Alfons Stach". Mr. Stach now lives in the USA and besides being a member of our Society, he is still an active stamp dealer and advertises frequently in the Specialist.

Some collectors also include stamps with Karl Marx as Judaica, but I think there are too many stamps of this motive issued. It is better that these stamps be considered in a collection of Socialist Founders.

Before 1948 many post offices in Czechoslovakia had slogan cancellations for several Zionist meetings. Sometimes the cancellations had a combination Czech-Hebrew text. Some of these are: Karlovy Vary—Congress Zionist 12 September 1921; Bohumín-Makabi, 26 June 1932; Praha—Congress Zionist 4 September 1933; Banská Bystrica—Makabi, 18 November 1936; Mariánské Lázně—Agudah Israel 1937; and Karlovy Vary—50 years Zionist Organization 17 August 1947.

It can be said in comparison with other countries, that Czechoslovak-Judaica, in philately, ranks high and is among the favorite of collectors of such material.

PRAGUE COURT SENTENCES THREE IN THEFT OF RARE STAMPS

(Reprinted from the New York Times)

A Prague court has sentenced three brothers to prison terms in the theft of a sheet of 80 rare Blue Mercury stamps issued by the former Austro-Hungarian empire and valued at more than \$200,000.

The official Czechoslovak press agency said Josef W., 29 years old, received 10 years; Victor W., 19, eight years and Ladislav W., 16, three years in a juvenile detention home. Their last name was not disclosed.

Earlier, Czechoslovak authorities said the Greek charge d'affaires in Prague, Elias L. Lymberopoulos, was seized when he allegedly attempted to smuggle the stamps out of the country. Border authorities said that when they checked his car at a Czechoslovak-Austrian border crossing last March they found Josef, described by police as the mastermind of the theft, hidden in the car's trunk.

AN INVITATION

Collectors of Czechoslovakia's postage stamps all over the world are invited to take part in the VIIIth annual international philatelic poll sponsored by the Editors of the Czechoslovak daily "Mladá Fronta"

"For the Best Czechoslovakia's Postage Stamp of 1970."

Here are the two questions to be answered:

- 1) Which Czechoslovak postage stamp issued in 1970 did you like based on an artist's conception as an original subject?
- 2) Which Czechoslovak postage stamp issued in 1970 did you like based on the engraving using another artist's subject for the design?

Everybody having answered the two questions to the best of his knowledge and belief will get the usual Philatelic Souvenir, a piece of fine graphic art created by one of the most outstanding authors of Czechoslovakia's postage stamps, provided that a self-addressed envelope, approximately seven by five inches in size, and an international Reply Coupon are enclosed to cover the postage.

Philatelic Clubs may organize a kind of "collective voting," indicating apart from its result the exact number of voters and enclosing the respective quantities of the official International Reply Coupons. They will receive the same number of souvenirs for distribution among their members—participants.

The replies are to be sent without any delay, via air mail, to

Messrs. MLADA FRONTA—Philatelic Poll

Panská 8, Prague 1, CSSR

so that they arrive no later than March 31st, 1971.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

Please let us inform you that a new club for the aerophilatelist has been established in Prague, the name of which is APOLLOFILA-CLUB PRAHA.

We would like to be in touch with the other air mail collectors, whom we are ready to inform about all the philatelic events which will take place in Czechoslovakia.

We would be grateful if you will assist us through the intermediary of your magazine about our organization to enable all who are interested to contact us.

Our address: APOLLOFILA—CLUB PRAHA, P. O. Box 592, Prague 1, Czechoslovakia.

Sincerely, Miloslav Mika, President

Charley's Corner

Back in April of 1967, an article appeared in the Specialist on the known varieties of the T. G. Masaryk (Moscow issue) of 1945.

Shortly after the Specialist was distributed, I received a letter from member Savoy Horvath of Chicago Heights, Ill., that his father owned a complete sheet of the 50 heller green in imperforate condition. Does anyone among our membership own the 50 heller green imperforate? I'd like to hear from you.

Last November, 1969, in an auction in Prague conducted by Pofis, two blocks were offered that showed perforations missing vertically between the stamp design and the right sheet margins on the 5 heller value.

In recent months I have noted three more examples of varieties in this issue. The 20 heller brown—a double perforation at the top sheet margin and the 1 Kč red showing a paper foldover. In the 5 heller value, perforations missing at the top sheet margins just as in the 50 h, 1 Kč, and 2 Kč that were mentioned in my original article which was prepared with the help of our former secretary, Mr. Frank Kosik.

Due to the holiday rush, I didn't have any photos ready for any of the above, but I'll get them in for my next article.

May 1971 be prosperous for all of you and I hope to hear from many of you in these coming months.



Wanted

SPECIAL DELIVERY and NEWSPAPER STAMPS

Scotts No. E1 to E3, P1 to P8

In order to complete a study of these issues I would like to purchase full sheets, part sheets, large blocks, strips. Misprints, oddities, paperfolds.

Also need postally used items on covers, cards, wrappers and parcel clippings.

No lot too large or two small. Check by return mail.

Box 32

C. J. PEARCE

Coalgate, Okla. 74538



**AUCTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS HELD BY THE POSTAL PHILATELIC
SERVICE (POFIS) IN PRAGUE, NOV. 15 & 16, 1969**

(continued)

| Lot | Condition | Description | Pofis | | Scott | | Est. Prices | |
|--------|-----------|--|-----------|---------|---------|----------|---------------|-------|
| | | | | | | | Val. Realized | (Kčs) |
| 460* | B | "Posta Československa"—postage due, signed Mrňák | 67,69 | B42,44 | 90 | 150 | | |
| 461* | B | "Posta Československa"—3Kč, sig Mrňák | 116 | B88 | 70 | 180 | | |
| 462o | B | Olympic Congress, complete set on cover, com- memorative cancel, signed Mrňák | 18-182 | B137-39 | 440 | 640 | | |
| 463o | B | VIII Slet, complete set on cover, com- memorative cancel | 183-186 | B140-43 | 340 | 480 | | |
| 464o | AC | Airpost, First issue complete set, corner copies, signed Gilbert | L1-3 | C1-3 | 300 | 500 | | |
| 465** | B | Airpost, First issue complete set, signed Gilbert, Mrňák | L1-3 | C1-3 | 230 | 415 | | |
| 466o | AC | Airpost First set complete, corner blocks of 4, signed Gilbert | L1-3 | C1-3 | 1100 | 1350 | | |
| 467** | C | Airpost, First issue complete set perf., off-center, signed Gilbert, Mrňák | L1A,2A,3B | C4-6 | 300 | 630 | | |
| 468** | C | Airpost 24Kč, perforated 13% off center, signed Gilbert, Mrňák | L2A | C5 | 150 | 180 | | |
| 469*** | B | Airpost, first issue, complete set perf., strip of 3 off center, signed Gilbert | L1A,2A,3B | C4-6 | 1000 | 1450 | | |
| 470o | B | Airpost first issue complete set perforated, edge strip 2, off center, signed Gilbert | L1A,2A,3B | C4-6 | 800 | 1100 | | |
| 471o | B | Airpost first issue complete set perf., blocks of 4, off center, signed Gilbert | L1A,2A,3B | C4-6 | 1400 | 1800 | | |
| 472*** | B | Airpost complete set block of 4, signed Gilbert, stamp Pofis No. 6, creased | L4-6 | C7-9 | 200 | 340 | | |
| 473** | B | Hradčany 10, 20, imperf., Pofis 9 (Scott 45a) edge copy, signed Gilbert, Mrňák | 6,9 | 43a,45a | 300 | 709 | | |
| 474** | B | Hradčany 20h, two joined gutter pairs, signed Gilbert, Mrňák | M81 | 4a | 200 | 780 | | |
| 475* | B | Commemoratives 1923, complete set, some values off center, according to watermark position—two of the 200h values have watermark position 7 (No. 8 missing) Signed Gilbert | | | | Scott | | |
| 476** | B | Congress, complete set, corner pieces, watermark position 5, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B137-139 | | |
| 477** | B | Congress, complete set, Position 6, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B137-139 | | |
| 478** | B | Congress, complete set, Position 7, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B137-139 | | |
| 479** | B | Congress, complete set, Position 8, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B137-139 | | |
| 480** | B | VIII. Slet Issue, complete set, Position 5, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B140-143 | | |
| 481** | B | VIII. Slet Issue, complete set, Position 6, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B140-143 | | |
| 482** | B | VIII. Slet Issue, complete set, Position 7, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B140-143 | | |
| 483** | B | VIII. Slet Issue, complete set, Position 8, Signed Gilbert, Mrňák | | | | B140-143 | | |
| 484** | B | Tatra, 5Kč—plate block, No. 1, Unwatermarked, Sig Gilbert | | | 140 | | | |
| 485** | B | Commemorative 1930, cpl set, plate blocks of 4, No. 1 | | | 175-178 | | | |
| 486** | B | Tyrš Issue, complete set, plate block of 4, No. 1 | | | 187-190 | | | |
| 487** | B | Tyrš Issue, complete set, plate blocks of 4, No. 1A | | | 187-190 | | | |

CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President

Joseph J. Janecka, Jr., 7306 Ogden Ave., Riverside, Ill. 60546

Vice President, East

Dr. Otakar Kutvirt, 161 Branford Rd., Rochester, N. Y. 14618

Vice President, Central

Edwin J. Jirousek, 16214 Maplewood Ct., Maple Heights, Ohio 44137

Vice President, West

Emil L. Cuhel, 3836 Broadlawn Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90028

National Secretary

George W. Schabow, Rt. 5, 12-1st Ave., Antioch, Ill. 60002

International Secretary

George A. Blizil, 5208 Jackson St., Hollywood, Fla. 33021

Treasurer

Thomas Meeks, 532 West 145th Street, Apt. 6, New York, N. Y. 10031

Editor

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

Councillor, East

Edwin J. Hanish, 5 Concord Drive, Old Bridge, N. J. 08857

Councillor, Central

Charles A. Matiaska, 11217 Methyl Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44120

Councillor, West

John Knollmueller, 2159 Preston St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84106

STAFF

Sales Manager

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

Assistant Editor

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

Librarian

George W. Schabow, Rt. 5-12 1st Ave., Antioch, Ill. 60002

NEW MEMBERS

- 916 Milan De Lany, 6007 McKinley St., Bethesda, Md. 20034
 917 Karel Lipa, 21430 Ridgedale, Oak Park, MI 48237
 918 Arthur Frank, 6388 W. 77th St., Los Angeles, CA 90045
 919 Charles E. Worley, 10504 Procter St., Silver Springs, MD.
 920 Miss Frances N. Kost, 1324 Hollywood Ave., Bronx, NY 10460
 921 George M. Slovacek, 1518 So. Ridgeland Ave., Berwyn, IL.
 922 Frank Capek, 39 Barnes Drive, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660
 923 Dr. Zbislav M. Peters, 80-09 35th Ave., Jackson Heights, NY 11372
 924 Dr. Marvin J. Albinak, 2209 Dalewood Road, Timonium, MD 21093
 925 Mrs. Lilian Hornak Sorrels, 7919 Braesmeadow, Houston, TX 77035
 926 Joseph Adam, 24 Rossland Road East, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
 927 Dorothy J. Volosin, 43 Wakefield St., Hamden, Conn. 06517
 928 Leonard C. Prieur, 1013 Chippewa St., Flint, Mich.
 929 Mrs. E. Lee Collins, 5844 Sherrier Place, N. W., Washington, DC 20016
 930 N. Thomas Strnad, 2265 Green Road, Cleveland, OH 44121
 931 Thomas H. Hornick, 56 Riverview Ave., Binghamton, NY 13904

STAMP MARKET TIPS

By John G. Ross

Reprinted from Stamps Magazine

CZECHOSLOVAKIA—In 1956 a European Timetable Conference for Railroads was held in Prague, and six stamps were promptly issued to commemorate this event, Scott 770-775. Various types of engines are shown in the designs, and as it is a Railroad on Stamps topic, I presume that many topical collectors are interested. Mintage was not too great. The 45 heller value had a printing of only 300,000, and as is customary with all Czech postage stamps, a large portion was cto'd immediately and sold abroad for Western currency at a large discount from face value. Now this set has become scarce. Dealers in Vienna want to buy, probably selling it back to Czechoslovakia, and are offering \$1.75 per set which is about twice the new issue cost. You probably still can find this set at your dealer for a good price, and I suggest you do so. Once dealers start spending money for advertising there is no telling where the final price will land.

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.
2. Discount of 10% for members from total cost if **prepaid**.
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.
4. Have your ad double spaced between lines and typed or legibly printed.
5. It is the advertiser's responsibility that his or her copy is correct (proper spelling, abbreviations, punctuation, etc.), as the ad will be printed exactly how it is received.
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

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

HANDBOOK

BOHEMIA-MORAVIA & SLOVAKIA. An excellent reference and outstanding source of information for the stamps and postal stationery issued during the German occupation of the Bohemia and Moravia Protectorate and the independent state of Slovakia (1939-45). "... well planned arrangement for easy and quick reference, this book should be a delight to every collector of the issues of this extremely fascinating period of Czechoslovak history."—Review from Stamps Magazine. Hard cover, \$2.50.

PHILATELIC VOCABULARY

ENGLISH-CZECH and CZECH-ENGLISH. An absolute must for the English speaking collector of Czechoslovakia. Highly regarded in the philatelic world as shown by prominence given in lot description of extensive Czechoslovak collection in recent auction held by international stamp auction house. Hard cover \$1.50, soft cover \$1.50.

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 | 4 | 8.50 |
| 1952-53 | 4 | 6.50 |
| 1953-54 | 1 | 6.50 |
| 1954 | 4 | 4.50 |
| 1954-55 | 5 | 6.50 |
| 1955 | 8 | 4.50 |
| 1958 | 10 | 4.50 |
| 1959 | 14 | 4.50 |
| 1960 | 5 | 4.50 |
| 1961 | 2 | 4.50 |
| 1963 | 2 | 5.50 |

UNBOUND ORIGINALS

| | |
|--|----------------|
| 1940 (missing: Jan., Feb., Oct., Nov.) | \$2.50 |
| 1941 (missing: April, June) | 3.50 |
| 1945 (missing: Jan., Feb., April, March, Oct.) | 1.75 |
| 1946 and 1947 complete | Each year 3.25 |
| 1948 (missing: March, June) | 2.75 |
| 1949 to 1969 complete | Each year 3.50 |

SINGLE ISSUES

Each unbound copy of any of the above is 50c

All prices include postage and handling. Order from the treasurer:

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

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
