

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the  Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Silver Bronze Award Praga 1968

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Old Austrian Mail Rates

by Zdenek Kvasnička

translated by L. H. Vydra

In 1863, a Mr. Vincent Diba, teacher at the Prague Central School published a textbook of civics in which he included a lucid description of the then prevailing Austrian postal regulations regarding the letter mail. Even now his description will be of interest to those philatelists who collect old Austrian covers. The regulations read as follows:

The Letter Mail

A. FIRST CLASS MAIL (ordinary letters)

According to the "high authority" ruling of September 25, 1849, it is established that all letters presented to the post offices for domestic delivery must be franked, that the postage is paid for before sent away. For this purpose all H.R.M. post offices in Prague and elsewhere which have mail collecting boxes will sell the following stamps:

2 kreuzer yellow, 3 kreuzer green, 5 kreuzer red, 10 kreuzer blue, and 15 kreuzer beige.

In addition the same post offices will also sell ready-made envelopes with embossed stamps.

The delivery rates for ordinary first class are established by the distance necessary for the letter to reach its destination.

1. If the destination is in the same postal district, the letter will be franked with 3 Kreuzer stamp.

2. If the place of destination is not more than 10 miles (the old Austrian mile equals 4 and 7/10 of the present American mile) the letter will be franked with 5 Kreuzer stamp.

3. For the distances between 10 to 20 miles the charge will be 10 Kr.

4. Over 20 miles, the 15 Kreuzer stamp must be used.

These rates apply to single letters not more than 1 Lot (approx. 6/10 oz.) of weight. For heavier letters the rate is proportionately higher.

Unsealed letters or other material in wrappers will be franked with 2 Kreuzer stamp.

B. REGISTERED LETTERS

If one wishes to assure the safe delivery of his letter to the addressee, one has to send it by registered mail for a fee of 10 Kreuzers for which the postal clerk will issue a receipt. If the sender desires to know that the letter was surely delivered, a return receipt is obtained by paying the basic postal fee for the registered letter plus a fee of 10 Kreuzer. The return receipt is signed by the addressee. Registered letter destined for the stagecoach mail must have sender's address written on the back of the envelope.

C. LETTER with money, stock certificates and other financial papers.

In case of letters with money and other financial papers this fact has to be clearly marked on the face of the envelope together with the amount and numbers of enclosed legal tenders. Letters with money must be brought to the post office open so that the postal clerk will be able to check the amount of enclosed money and then officially seal the letter. According to the regulation issued July 27, 1850, these money letters may be presented sealed at the office, and the clerk will affix the official seal. However in the first case, the post office guarantees the actual amount of money enclosed in the letter, while in the latter category, it guarantees only the safe delivery of the letter with undamaged seals and original weight. Letters with securities, bonds, and other financial papers like notes, checks, etc., may be presented at the post offices sealed with its contents and valuations noted in writing on the face of the envelope.

D. PARCEL POST

Boxes, bundles and crates sent through the mail must be accompanied with special parcel post statement with the full address and contents of the shipment, as well as the full address and seal of the sender. These statements must bear a 5 kreuzer revenue stamp.

List of K. K. Postoffices in Bohemia less than 10 miles (Austrian) from Prague
Postal rate for single letters between Prague and these towns was 5 Kreuzers

Běchovice	Doksy (Hirschberg)	Karbice
Bechyně	Dub (Český)	Janovice Uhlířské
Bělá (Weisswasser)	Dubá	Kolín
Benátky	Duchcov (Dux)	Kopidlno
Benešov (v Tábor. kr.)	Dušníky	Kostelec Černý
Beřkovice	Hajda	Kostelec nad Labem
Bernardice	Heřmanův Městec	Košetice
Beroun	Hirnsen	Kozmonosy
Bilina	Hořice	Královice (u Plas)
Boleslav Mladá	Horosedly	Kralupy (u Veltrus)
Brandejs nad Labem	Hořovice	Králuv Městec
Brod (Český)	Hodkovice (Libenau)	Křelovice
Brod (Železný)	Hostomice	Křivoklát
Břasy	Hradiště Mnichovo	Kutná Hora
Březnice	Chlumec	Labský Týnec (Elbe
Budyně	Chomůtov (omotau)	Teiniz)
Bydžov	Jablonec (Gablonz)	Ledeč
Cerhovice	Jechnice	Libany
Čáslav	Jeníkov	Libochovice
Čechtice	Jesenice	Lípa Česká (Böhmisch
Dnespeky	Jičín	Leipa)
Dobříš	Jílové (Eule)	Lisá
Doksany	Jistebnice	Litoměřice

Lobosice	Pecka	Sobotka
Loučín	Plaňany	Středokluky
Louny (Laun)	Plasy	Sudoměřice
Medonost	Plzeň	Tábor
Melník	Poděbrady	Teplice
Milévsko	Podbořany (Podersam)	Terezín
Milín	Police	Třebeňice
Mimoň (Niemes)	Postoloprty	Turnov
Mirovice	Přelouč	Týnec Panenský
Mníšek	Příbram	Veltrusy
Mšeno	Rakovník	Velvary
Muncifaj	Rokycany	Verneřice
Mýto (Mauth)	Roztoky	Vlašim
Nadějkov	Roudnice	Votice
Nehvizdy	Rožďalovice	Vožice Mladá
Nechánice	Řenčov	Vtelno
Neveklov	Říčany	Zákupy
Nová Paka	Sadská	Zbirov
Nové Strašecí	Sedčany	Zbraslav
Nymburk	Sedlice	Zbraslavice
Osek	Sedmihorka	Zdiby
Ouštěk (Aucha)	(Wartenberg)	Zdice
Oustí nad Labem	Semily	Zinnwald
Ouvaly	Slaný	Zlonice
Pečec	Smržovka	Žatec
		Žebrák

Names of Imperial, Royal, Postoffices in Bohemia more than ten miles distance from Prague

Postage rate for single letter 10 Kreuzer

Batelov	Heidenreichstein	Kámen
Bernartice	Jindřichovice	Kamenice Česká
Berninky (Bäringen)	Heinsbach	Kamenné Dvory
Blatná	Hlinsko	Kaplice
Blatno (Platten)	Holice	Karlovy Vary
Blovice	Horázdovice	Kašperské Hory
Boberov	Hostinné (Arnau)	Kralupy u Chomútova
Brandejs nad Orlicí	Hradec Jindřichův	Klátěrec (Klösterle)
Brod Německý	Hroznětín	Klatovy
Broumov	Humpolec	Klenče
Brtnice	Cheb (Eger)	Kostelec n. Orlicí
Buchov	Chejnov	Králové Dvůr
Budějovice	Choceň	Králové Hradec
Budějovice Moravské	Chotěboř	Krásná Lípa
Bystřice Nová	Chrást	Kraslice
Čihana	Chrastava	Krotava (Crottau)
Černošín	Chrudim	Krumlov (Krumau)
Čimelice	Chřibská	Křelovice
Dačice	Jablonné (Gabel)	Kynžvart
Děčín	Jáchymov	Lanškroun
Dobřany	Jámy	Kušvarda
Dobruška	Jaroměř	Liberec
Domažlice (Taus)	Jaroměřice	Litomyšle
Doupov	Jilemnice	Litvínov Horní
Františkovy Lázně	Jirkov (Gorkau)	Lnáře
Friedlant	Josefov	Loket (Elbogen)
Haida	Kadaň	Lomnice

Lubeneč	Plánice	Strakonice
Manetín	Počátky	Stříbrné Hory
Marianské Lázně	Podmokly (Bodenbach)	Stříbro (Mies)
Mikulášovice	Police u Náchoda	Střimelice
Miletín	Polička	Sušice
Most (Brüx)	Polna	Světlá
Náchod	Prachatice	Šluknov
Nasavrky	Přeštice	Štoky (Stecken)
Nejdek	Přimislava	Schwarzbach
Nepomuky	(Přimislau)	Weckelsdorf
Netolice	Přimda	Teplá (Tepl)
Niedergrunt	Přísenice	Toužim
Nová Kdýně	Radiměř (Rothmühl)	Trutnov
Nové Hradky	Radonice	Třebechovice
Nové Město u	Rochlice Horní	Třeboň
Friedlandu	Rochlice Dolní	Třebová Česká
Nový Městec	Rokytnice	Tuškov (Tuschkau)
Nový Rychnov	Ronšberk	Tn nad Vltavou
Nový Svět (Neuwelt)	Rumburk	Týnec Horšův
Olešnice	Rychemburk	(Bischofteinitz)
Opočno	Rychnov	Uhersko
Oustí nad Orlicí	Řečice Kardašova	Úhlice
Pacov	Skalice	Warnsdorf
Pardubice	Skuč	Vejprty
Pečov (Petschau)	Slavkov (Schlagenwald)	Velešín
Pelhřimov	Smiřice	Veselí
Petrovice	Soběslava	Vilomice
Písek	Sokolov (Falkenau)	Vimperk
Plac	Staňkov	Vodňany
Planá (Plan)	Stoda (Staab)	Volyně



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1700 stamps and 14 S. S. over 90% unused. From 1918 to 1960, lacking basically only rare or extremely high values. Excellent coverage of commems, airs, and back of book material—loaded with sought after complete sets. With very few exceptions, condition is top quality throughout. This superior collection, cataloguing \$1650, is seldom offered with as much completeness and as much unused material at any price. At our price of \$550 it's an opportunity for the Czechoslovakia specialist that won't come along very often.

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Vysoké Mýto		Zlutice (Luditz)

Letters and other material considered as letters	Letter Mail Rates			
	Zone 1	Distance		Zone 3
		(as the crow flies)		
	up to 10 miles	up to 20 miles	over 20 miles	
Gulden-Kreuzer	Gulden-Kreuzer	Gulden-Kreuzer		
Letters up to 1 lot -----	5	10	15	
1 lot up to 2 lots -----	10	20	30	
2 lots up to 3 lots -----	15	30	45	
3 lots up to 4 lots -----	20	40	60	
4 lots up to 5 lots -----	25	50	75	
5 lots up to 6 lots -----	30	60	90	
6 lots up to 7 lots -----	35	70	1 05	
7 lots up to 8 lots -----	40	80	1 20	
8 lots up to 9 lots -----	45	90	1 35	
9 lots up to 10 lots -----	50	1 —	1 50	
10 lots up to 11 lots -----	55	1 10	1 65	
11 lots up to 12 lots -----	60	1 20	1 80	
12 lots up to 13 lots -----	65	1 30	1 95	
13 lots to 14 lots -----	70	1 40	2 80	

Material in open wrappers: 2 Kreuzers per 1 Lot

Weight: 1 lot corresponds approximately 6/8 ounces

Distance: Austrian postal mile corresponds to 4-7/10 U. S. miles (Austrian postal mile was abandoned in 1878)

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1970

Income:		Expenses:	
Dues -----	\$1,055.00	Printing of Specialist -----	\$827.30
Advertising -----	182.80	Mailing of Specialist -----	198.67
Circuit Commission -----	62.26	Binding Specialist 1969 -----	82.50
Sale of Books -----	155.00	Postage -----	70.00
Interest on Savings -----	23.46	Legal Fees (Attorney) -----	50.00
		Dues S. P. A. -----	7.50
	<u>\$1,478.52</u>		<u>\$1,235.97</u>
Transfer from 1969 -----	\$ 732.48		
Income in 1970 -----	1,478.52		
			\$2,211.00
Expenses in 1970 -----			<u>1,235.97</u>
In Treasury -----	\$ 975.03**		
**In Checking acct. -----	\$ 115.09		
In Savings acct. -----	859.94		
	<u>\$ 975.03</u>		

This report is for the entire year of 1970.

This report will be verified and if found correct will be published in the "Specialist."

Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Dec. 31, 1970

Thomas Meeks, Treasurer

Verified. Joseph Stein, Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch (auditors).

EDITORIAL

Due to circumstances beyond his control, Edward J. Benchik is unable to continue as editor, and because of his unfortunate problems there will be only eight issues of the Specialist this year. We have been asked by President Janecka to serve as editor, and was elected by the council to the office for the unexpired term of Benchik. We first would like to say we are sorry that Jack cannot continue the editorship as we think he has done a swell job and we are sure the members will agree with us. We thank him for all of us. He has assured us of his full co-operation. We do need this from him as well as from all the members, as this is a new undertaking for us and we ask you to bear with us. We will try to the best of our ability to keep the Specialist informative as well as interesting. Like all editors of society or club papers we ask all members for any contributions they may have for publication pertaining to Czechoslovak philately, originals or clippings. Please send them to us and we assure you we will review each item and acknowledge same.

Mr. H. Peter Vuhsem was elected Chairman of the newly formed Czechoslovak section of the German Philatelic Federation. He recently began to publish a German translation of the monograph which appeared in Czechoslovakia in 1968. He has much additional information in his circular letters or bulletins which are mailed out every two months.

A few months ago President Janecka appointed Mr. Vuhsem foreign correspondent of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society hoping that a good working relationship will ultimately be established for mutual benefit.

Members in command of the German language but who cannot read Czech literature would greatly benefit by joining the organization in Germany.

Anyone interested please contact Mr. H. Peter Vuhsem, Frintroperstrasse 262, D 4300 Esen-Frintrop, Germany.

We have received the following additional information from Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch. "I have just been asked to handle the distribution of a book to be published by January 1972 in Czechoslovakia. Honorary member Jan Karasek is writing the book on Pošta Ceskoslovenská 1919 which will consist of 120 pages on slick paper with illustrations in color. This specialty book will contain all known data and will appear in English and German. Mr. Vuhsem was authorized to handle all foreign orders and has requested me to take over the U.S.A. part of it. The cost of the book will be \$4.00 post-paid and orders are to me. It is imperative that we should know who might be interested in such a book to enable me to get enough copies here at the time of its appearance, otherwise there will be a definite delay in the execution of orders. Please inform the editor at your earliest convenience. The discount due me for the distribution will go to the treasury of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society." Signed, Wm. Reiner-Deutsch.

Enclosed you will find our dues notice. We ask you to kindly take care of the payment of dues at your early convenience for the good of the society. It is very difficult for the treasurer to mail repeated notices aside from the fact that this is costly. In connection with this we wish also to ask you to please keep us posted about your change of address. With the increase in postage our expenses are much higher. On the return we are required to pay double postage, plus an additional fee if the post office makes a notation of the new address. Please let's try to save this added expense.

The nominating committee under the chairmanship of Emil J. Michaelson appointed by President Joseph J. Janecka certified the following slate for officers for 1972-73.

The chairman sent this slate to the national secretary in June 1971.

President ----- Mirko L. Vondra
 Vice President East ----- Wolfgang Fritsche
 Vice President Central ----- Edwin J. Jirousek
 Vice President West ----- Emil L. Cuhel
 National Secretary ----- Edward Lisy
 International Secretary ----- George A. Blizil
 Treasurer ----- Thomas Meeks
 Councilor East ----- Edwin J. Hanish
 Councilor Central ----- Charles A. Matiaska
 Councilor West ----- Mrs. Edna B. Cummins
 Editor ----- William V. Schoenig

This issue contains the ballot and members are requested to promptly return this to the National Secretary George W. Schabow, Rt. 5, 12-1st Avenue, Antioch, Ill. 60002 with their votes. Members are asked to place their name and address on the envelope. Do not sign the ballots, and return on or before October 31, 1971.

We urge you all to vote although there is only one slate this year.

—————

**HANDBOOK OF CZECHOSLOVAKIAN POSTMARKS
 OF AUSTRIAN AND HUNGARIAN ORIGIN**
 By Frederick Leitenberger — Translated by C. H. Osbourn

(continued)

Illustration 5. Chrast u Chrudimi — Chrast b. Chrudim

Chrast u Chrudimi — | | b | |

or its opposite:

Chlum u Hlinska — Chlum b. Hlinsko

Chlum u Hlinska — Chlum | | Hlinsko

Illustration 6. Has a part of the inscription filled up to the height of the writing, so that in its place a black arc (blocked in) appears. So, the inscription for illustration 6 will be as follows:

Schonwald b. Mahr.-Neustadt — Sumwald u Uncova

| xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx | — Sumwald u Uncova

The unrecognizableness of part of the inscription, is not always so complete as in this example. Some kinds represent the writing in ways little true to nature, one as shown here, was an appropriate substitute: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Illustration 7. In many cases, an attempt was made at weakening the nationalization, by setting stars or rosettes as substitutes in the place



Illus. 7



Illus. 8



Illus. 9

of the omitted part of the inscription, as in Illustration 7.

Velke Porici n. Met. —
 Velke Porici n Met. —
 Gross Porici A. D. M.
 | Rosette |

Illustration 8. A further method of nationalization is the changing of non-Czech letters into Czech.

Smichov — Smichow
 Smichov — Smicho|v|
 Again:
 Prelouc - Prelauc
 Prelouc - Pre|o|uc

Illustrations 8 and 9. The simplest example of nationalization, among double language postmarks, is the upside-down date.

Illustration 10. Finally, we now come to a double nationalization. The circumstance happens here, that a double circle postmark, with on the left and right, separate double language inscriptions, and the vertical one-under-the-other arranged time declaration—this postmark leaves out the German place name, and the vertical date figure, and instead, shows the date horizontally under the remaining inscription. That type of postmark, also produced wrongly, a single language wheel stamp. Through the remaining star decoration, or the lettering between the two former inscriptions, the circumstances finds its explanation. The written characters of the nationalized postmark type, would be the following:

Nezdasov - Nezdaschow
 Nezdasov - | |

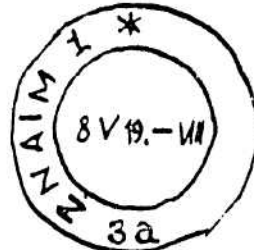
Those may be the main points in the earliest nationalized postmarks, still the examples shown up to here, sufficiently point out, that there were many other forms. The nationalizing of stamp implements was more or less detailed, there was lacking suitable tools or staff, so that the remodeling of the stamps was many times off center. As we see in the case of Illustration 8, we find often that injury to the stamp has produced a postmark with all the numbers, but with regard to the date opening, the under line is completely lacking. There are also cases where the double circle stamp has lost all appearance of the inner circle. Although it is not only in the nationalized postmarks, yet it may be seen often, that the hour of issue is lacking, and even the year figure, as well as the blocking out of the former.



Illus. 10



Illus. 11



Illus. 12

(To be continued)

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 128 Bauer, William, 25 Holden St., Clifton, N. J. 07011
 96 Berka, Egon, Dr., 5475 Everett Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60615
 508 Beyer, Millard K., 20 Highfield Dr., Dix Hills, N. Y. 11746
 155 Billig, Fritz, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica, N. Y. 11432
 885 Blakeney, Kirby, 1702 Inez Dr. N. E., Albuquerque, N. M. 87110
 465 Blastik, Charles, 3006 S. Kildare Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60623
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 407 Blinn, Earl F., Mrs., P. O. Box 730, Woodbury, N. J. 08096
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 575 Bobek, Jerry V., 3040 W. 54th St., Chicago, Ill. 60632
 16 Bogdan, Nichoas A., 464 Genesee St., Trenton, N. J. 08611

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53 Brown, Clayton E., 25 Hampden St., West Springfield, Mass. 01089
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The stamp received 7,533 votes out of the 15,000 cast by collectors from 46 countries, including 231 from the United States.

Designed by J. Lukavsky, and engraved by B. Housa, the stamp was reported to have topped the poll organized by the Italian stamp magazine "Il Collezionista Italia Filatelica" as the most beautiful stamp of the world issued in 1970.

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