

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

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THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF MEMBERS WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

Some keep our Czechoslovak Philatelic Society strong,
While others join, just to belong,
Some volunteer and do their share
While others rest and never care.
At convention meetings, some always show,
While some there are who never go.
Some always pay their dues ahead;
Some get behind for months instead.
Some do their best; some build, some make.
Some never do — just sit and take.
Some lag behind, just let things go,
And never help our Society grow.
Some drag, some pull, some don't some do.
Consider: Which of these are you?

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MORE PHILATELIC DOCUMENTATIONS OF THE SOKOL

Written by Jiří Nekvasil

Translated by Mirko L. Vondra

The April 1970 issue of the SPECIALIST contained a reprint of an article translated from the philatelic journal MERKUR, published in Czechoslovakia. The article contained a listing of philatelic material which had a direct bearing on the Sokol movement and its history. In it, the author pointed out how the philosophy of Dr. Miroslav Tyrš, symbolic founder of the Sokol, became progressively significant. It not only had undisputed influence on the physical fitness of the Czech nation for many years, but also roused an awareness of patriotism among its people. This was an essential aftermath of the difficult period of absolutism under the former Austrian Empire. For a long time, the Sokol stood as a focal point of resistance to oppression and a training center for armed revolt against Austro-Hungary. It culminated in the formation of Czechoslovak Army units outside its borders during World War I.

It is axiomatic that the deep roots of Sokol thinking soon penetrated other Slavic countries. Even a Russian Sokol was organized, along with branches in Yugoslavia, Poland, Ukraine and Serbia. Sokol units also sprang up among countrymen settled in other lands. The best example was the Sokol in North America which is over 100 years old and still flourishes.

Activities of the Sokol, both at home and abroad, understandably bequeathed many gems to philatelists over the last 70 years. These are richly illustrative of the history of the entire Sokol movement from which can be extracted specialized topical collections, which are so popular today. Consequently this supplement was published to describe additional items which we were successful in discovering and identifying in the last two years. It should be of interest to collectors of sports stamps as well as Sokol stamps.

Unfortunately our call to philatelists in the United States for information on related material drew a poor response. We suspect that a wealth of Sokol philatelic matter originated in the United States in the past ten years. Much of it is not known to us. A similar situation exists in Poland where philatelic matter of the post- and pre-war period of 1918 to 1939 is not known to many collectors. We are therefore operating on the basis of what by chance we happen to discover.

It appears that the "mystery" of the special Sokol hand canceller was generally clarified in Issue Number 8 of the 1970 MERKUR by the well-known Praha collector, Dr. Antonin Hoza, who was himself a participant in the Sokol Meet in Brno during June 27 through 29, 1914. It is also possible to learn more about this canceller in Austrian philatelic writings.

The Sokol Meet at Trocnov in 1924 (Fig. 1)

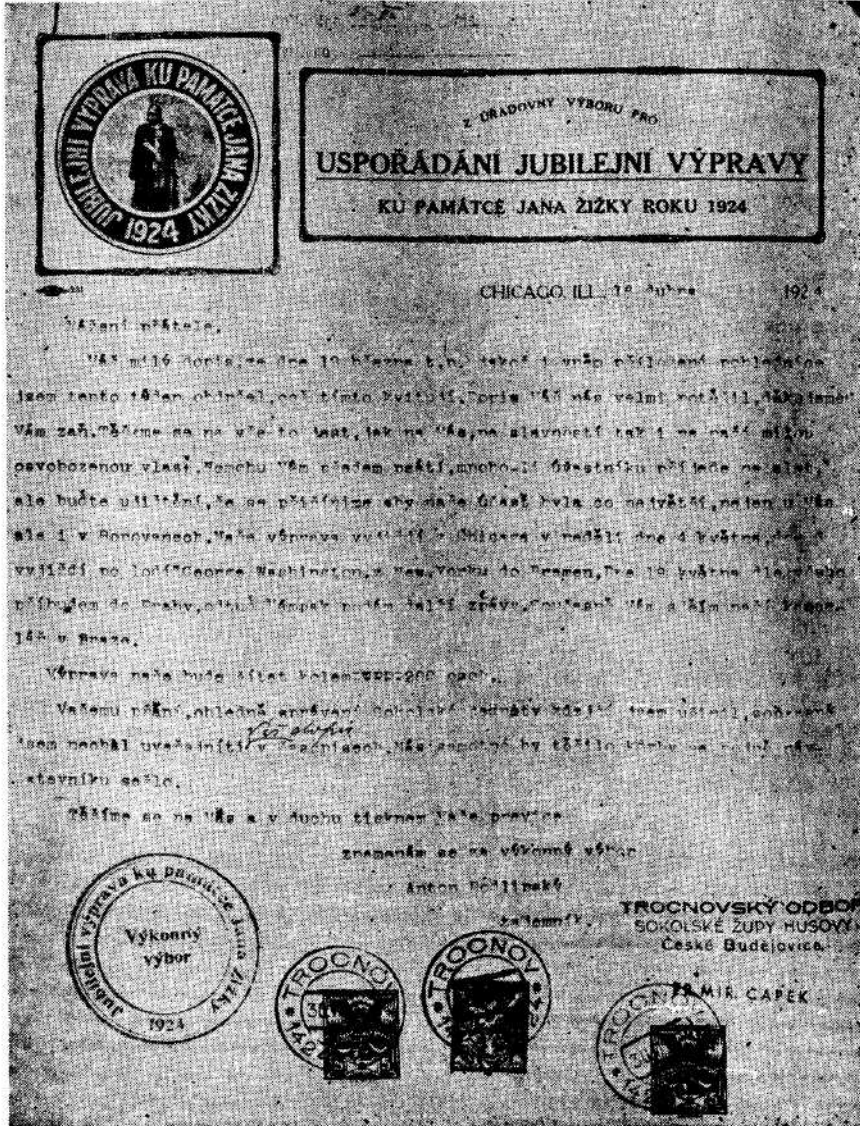
To the many Czechoslovak collectors of special cancellations during the period from 1919 to 1937, a familiar cancellation is the one bearing this inscription: "Trocnov / 1424-1924 (dated) 30 May 1924". It exists in two colors, black and red, and in two varieties. These differ in size: one has an outside diameter of 31 mm. with an inside circle having a diameter of 19 mm.; the other has diameters of 30 mm. and 18 mm. Its lettering differs slightly. This leads us to believe that one canceller was metal while the other was rubber. Both cancellers were used the same day in two different colors. For the specialized collector, this means four separate and distinct items in his collection.

Other facts which this cancellation bears explaining to collectors of Sokol topicals must be considered. For example, from June 28 to 30, 1924, a festival of the Sokol district of Hus was held in České Budějovice. This event aroused great national enthusiasm in conjunction with the Sokol Meet at Trocnov (birthplace of Jan Žižka of Trocnov and Kalicha) commemorating the 500th anniversary of his death. On this occasion Trocnov was visited not only by Sokols from southern Bohemia, but by a delegation of American Sokols numbering some 200 persons. The American undertaking was organized by the Sokol in Chicago under the leadership of Jan Reznicka, Jacob Roule, Antonin Podlipski, Jan Havlaček and Ferdinand Diblík—all of them American Sokols of Czech origin. In Czechoslovakia, the enterprise was organized by the Trocnov committee of the Sokol district of Hus under the direction of František Miroslav Čapek, Adolf Novak and František Manka. American Sokols financed their own participation at the Trocnov festival from a special Žižka fund. Illustrated here are some interesting and timely documentations of the historic occasion, including special cancellations which are the only philatelic items for this event (Fig. 1). I myself have a postcard in my collection sent from Trocnov on that day bearing a special cancellation. On it,

the sender has written a message applauding the "glorious Sokol Meet honoring the memory of Jan Žižka."

Polish Sokol Cancellations (Fig. 2)

As I mentioned earlier, there surely exists a line of philatelic material about Polish Sokol Meets and other such events, but it is only incidental and fragmentary. Therefore it was surprising to find two special cancellations from a Sokol Meet held from June 27 to July 1, 1929 in Poznan. Both cancellations are illustrated here, so that further description is unnecessary. We are hopeful that closer cooperation with Polish philatelists in this field will





help define and clarify the scope of Polish philatelic material related to the Sokol movement during the period from 1918 to 1939.

Souvenirs of Yugoslav Sokol Meets

Further attention has been focused on Yugoslav Meet cancellations used on the occasion of various Sokol festivals in the period between the two World Wars. First of these is an oblong cancellation in red ink with its corners clipped. It was used at the First Yugoslav All-Sokol Meet in Lublan during the early part of August 1922. Two parallel lines divide the cancellation into three parts. The top section has a Latin text; the bottom is in Cyrillic; the center is for the day, month and year. Another interesting cancellation was used in 1930 for the First All-Sokol Meet held in Belgrade in the summer of that year. Besides these special cancellations, we also found the one pictured here (gi. 3). Stamps were cancelled with it strictly as favors while at the same time, if the letter or package actually passed through the mails, the stamps were also cancelled by regular post-office cancellation. This second cancellation appeared in violet color. It is circular and its diameter is 34 mm. It has an inner circle which is somewhat eccentric to the outer one, and which has a diameter of 17 mm. Between the two circles is the following inscription in Cyrillic: "All-Sokol Meet of the Sokol Kraljevine Jugoslavije / Belograd 1930". Even an unofficial cancellation like this which appears on genuine cover by accident is a desirable item for everyone who collects and delves into this subject. Moreover, a large Registered Mail cancellation stamped in red ink was used on letters and postcards sent that way and sold across the counter at the festival grounds in Belgrade. The cancellation measures 55 by 18 mm. with a large letter R (for Rekomando) on the left. Next to it is a bilingual inscription: "Belograd / First All-Sokol Meet / (number) _____"

Together with other Yugoslav Meet cancellations—Lublan 1933, Sarajevo and Zagreb 1934—they make interesting philatelic conversation pieces regarding the significant development of the Sokol movement in Yugoslavia during the period from 1919 to 1939.

(to be continued)



NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

We would like to congratulate Wm. A. Sandrick on winning a bronze award at the recent Napex 71 Show in Washington, D. C. and also for a silver award at the Sojex 71 show in New Jersey. Dr. Max Lichenheim also won a silver award at the same show.

President Joseph J. Janecka wishes to announce the appointment of Mr. Mirko Vondra, 143 Stanmode Place, Westfield, N. J. 07090, as special Finance Chairman.

It was our pleasure to attend a recent gathering of Metropolitan area members and their wives at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sobel. The object of gathering was to discuss the change of time and place of meetings from the Collectors Club in New York City to a location in the Brooklyn area. A number of places were suggested, and Mr. Sobel volunteered to check the various places. Also discussed were the details of future activities. After the meeting refreshments were served by Mrs. Sobel. Attending were Mr. and Mrs. George Koplowitz, Dr. and Mrs. Frank Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stein, Mr. and Mrs. William Schoenig, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sobel, Mrs. Ruth Abramowitz, Mr. Emil Michaelson, and Mr. Mirko Vondra.

On September 7th we received a note from Mr. Joseph Stein, that Mr. Sobel was able to secure a room in Kings Bay Library at 3650 Nostrand Ave., Brooklyn, on Saturday afternoon from 2-5 p.m. for their meetings. First meeting October 9th and every second Saturday thereafter. Meetings will be open to anyone over the age of 15. They will have a short talk of some section of Czecho philately, show some stamps, and have an exchange.

Please pay your dues promptly.

New Issues

Intercosmos

On November 30, 1970, the Federal Committee of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of commemoratives entitled "Intercosmos" and comprising the following six stamps:

- 20 h — Collaboration of the socialist countries in space telecommunications. The subject of the stamp picture is a directional antenna for the receipt of signals from telecommunication satellites. Engraved by Bedřich Housa. Colors: black, dark green, pale green, violet.
- 40 h — Collaboration of the socialist countries in the investigation of the physical properties of outer space. The stamp picture shows a typified artificial satellite for geophysical research used in the experiments of the Intercosmos program, in this case Interkosmos 3. Engraved by Miloš Ondráček. Colors: black, red, yellow, violet.
- 60 h — Collaboration of the socialist countries in space meteorology. The stamp picture depicts a meteorological satellite of the Molniya type with silicon solar batteries; in the background is a part of a weather map made up of photographs taken and relayed to earth by the satellite. Engraved by Miloš Ondráček. Colors: black, blue, blue-violet, green
- 1 Kčs — Collaboration of the socialist countries in space biology and medicine. The stamp picture shows a cosmonaut in a spacesuit with equipment



for his stay inside the spaceship. In the background is a satellite of the Vostok type and graphs of the cosmonaut's biological functions. Engraved by Bedřich Housa. Colors: black, blue, violet, red.

1.20 Kčs — Collaboration of the socialist countries in the investigation of the physical properties of the sun. The stamp depicts a typified special-purpose satellite for solar research, in this case Interkosmos 4. In the background is a symbolic sector of art of the outer layers of the solar atmosphere. Engraved by Miloš Ondráek. Colors: black, yellow, pale violet, blue.

1.60 Kčs — Collaboration of the socialist countries in space telecommunications. The stamp picture shows a tow-stage rocket bearing an Interkosmos-type satellite with protective shield; it is depicted on the launching pad before blast off. Engraved by Bedřich Housa. Colors: black, red, gold, and blue.

The stamps were designed by Jaroslav Lukavský and printed at the Prague Post Printing Office by rotary recess print combined with three-color photo-gravure in sheets of 35. The dimensions of the stamp pictures are 33x33 mm.

Three First Day Covers, designed by Jaroslav Lukavský and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied, were issued with the stamps. These depict: a) a view of the motors of the Vostok rocket, b) the typified artificial satellite Interkosmos with solar batteries partially folded for the purpose of technological tests, and c) a directional antenna for receipt of telemetric signals. All the envelopes have the inscription "Interkosmos" in Czech and Russian.

The stamps are valid in international and internal postal use from November 30th, 1970, until further notice.

Please pay your dues promptly.

**HANDBOOK OF CZECHOSLOVAKIAN POSTMARKS
OF AUSTRIAN AND HUNGARIAN ORIGIN**

By Frederick Leitenberger — Translated by C. H. Osbourn

(continued)

2. HUNGARIAN POSTMARKS

The nationalization of Hungarian Postmarks didn't go so far, because there was no double language. Here there were only two possibilities.

- (1) Changing the date from "year-month-day-hour" to the new series of "day-month-year-hour"
(See EU3, GU1, RU2, RU9, RU10, BU1)

- (2) Making unrecognizable the crown in certain postmarks.

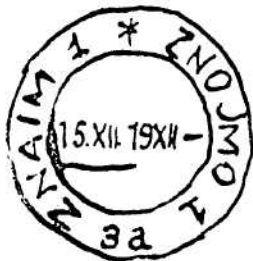
For the first case there is an extremely interesting example, viz., that of two cases of one and the same postmark, of the same day, indeed marked "Ungvar 2, on May 11, 1920", illustration RU 1. Not only is this postmark lacking in an hour of issue, and a letter, which are ordinarily looked upon as a control mark but naturally, the appearance of the same stamp before and after its nationalization, on the same piece of mail, is all the more surprising. This improbability finds then its explanation, perhaps in this way. The stamp with the nationalized date, had been used when a second similar stamp, not yet nationalized, was also brought into use.

The third form of nationalization of Hungarian Postmarks is shown in Illustration 11 and requires some explanation. It is the forerunner of the indistinct printings, and only the following explanation of it seems possible.

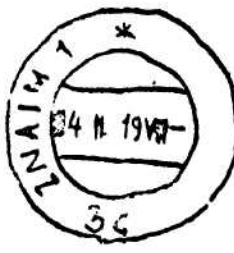
There is in this form, not yet produced, a railway postmark with line markings, as the still extant hyphen in front of Muran lets us imagine. Since however, Muran itself is not an original place designation, it can only be looked upon as part of a name, and the only possibility seems to be the place, "Muranyralja".

While this name was nationalized to Muran, through the removal of the "yralja," it might be that the hyphen relates to the other possible name "Pelsöcz," the point of departure from the district. It may be possible that the change comes, not from nationalization, but because a place stamp was made out of a railway stamp.

NOTE: After taking into consideration the foregoing possibilities, Dr. Weinert gives the opinion, that the "Muran" may be the nationalized form of "Rima-Murany." It must however be noted, that there is no such name in the list of places in the district.



Illus. 13



Illus. 14



Illus. 15



ILLUS. 16.

C. RENATIONALIZED POSTMARKS

In the foregoing divisions, it has already been shown, that the nationalization of postmarks extended not only to the German part of the inscription, but also, sometimes allowed the Czech text to disappear. There are, in this connection several examples, of which "ZNAIM" is one. There was of this postmark, after nationalization, a repeated changing about, even a turning back to the original form, after which it was once again nationalized, or we may say "renationalized."

The whole political situation, reflects the German striving for separation (see the German-Czech land regulations). So in this postmark. At first it was "Znaim"—German. Then being nationalized, the Czech name "Znojmo" was added. Soon however, through the influence of German nationalism, it slipped back to the German name, only and finally it was "renationalized" with the Czech name once more inserted. We see, in Illustration 12 and 15, the wheel postmark (R26) with the letters 3a and 3d, and in Illustrations 14 and 16, the same postmarks with the newly inserted Czech text. The time of the change, lies in both cases, seven months apart. The date shows that both these stamps were nationalized, in the first place, then seven months later they were renationalized.

The distinguishing mark of renationalized postmarks consists in the adaptation of the mark of nationalization (that is a cross set before the initial) to two crosses before renationalization.

It is alleged, that this nationalization or "de-nationalization" was brought about at the instigation of the Governor of the district, Count Oldfredi, who was working for the union of Znaim with Austria. Investigations concerning this, revealed unfortunately, only very insignificant results, and confined themselves to the official statement that,—“having received orders, the engraver, Theodor Beese, Znaim, did remove the Czech text from the postmark.” It was against this sort of thing, that the ruling quoted before, was sent out from the head office in 1918.

D. USES OF POSTMARKS

There remains now only to come to speak of the uses of the various postmark forms. In this survey, up till now, we have laid down no definite rules for the use of postmarks, but all used postmarks have found equal attention. Whether outgoing, or incoming postmarks, whether on a stamp or not, makes no difference. According to an approximate estimate, about 90% of the postmarks found, served manifold purposes, and were found as well on stamps as on stampless documents. The probability seems to be that even among the postmarks, not up till now found used on stamps, the possibility of their having been so used existed. Under what circumstances they were used is explained in Part II of this Handbook, in the place and postmark list, where each postmark form is listed, under the following divisions:

1. In blank, that is, not used on a stamp.
2. On forerunners, that is, on stamps of Austria and Hungary (1918-19).
3. Before April 30, 1921, at the end of the Hradčany Issues.
4. After June 1920, at the beginning of the second Free Republic stamp issue.

Such a classification is, of course, necessary, though we must realize that it is impossible to draw sharp lines of demarcation in point of time.

Radonitz

L1.

MICHELOB

L2.

ANDREASBERG

P1.

TURSKO (LIBSKE n. VLT LIBSCHITZ)

P2.

MLEGICE MLECITZ

P3.

WELLEN

F1.

GEORGSWALDE

E1.

SCHLUCKENAU

E2.

FRANZENBAD

LINDENAU
1
20
IN BOHEMEN

E3.

FRIEDLAND
1
20
BOHEMEN

E4.

ROHTEC
20
19

E5.

MOLESCHOWITZ
22
19
MOLESOWICE

E6.

ZNAJMA * ZNAJMA
11.11.19

+E6a

VOITERSREITH
19
20
BAHNHOF

B1

EGER
24
5
19
BAHNHOF

B2.

LIBSKE BAHNHOF
30
8-11
18
RECLA MUDRA

B3.

LIBSKE BAHNHOF
514
20.10.
19

B4. Z1.

LIBSCHITZ-DIETICHOWITZ
479
31.1.19

Z2.

STREIBENBERG-REICHENBERG
20.11.19
403

Z3.

PLANER - PETSCHAU
10.11.19
420

Z4.

STREIBENBERG-BOHEMISCH
17.5.22.11.22
100

Z5.

NEUDITZSCHAU - ZILJEWITZ
26.11.19
100

Z6.

E. FORMS OF POSTMARKS

(1) Austrian Postmarks

Under "Common" the supposition has already been expressed, that in postmarks, all varieties were used, which postmasters had on hand. That, among them, also were found some which had long been out of use, is also true. The material must here be dealt with in the order in which the separate stamp forms were introduced, i.e. chronologically. The distinctions in the postmarks follow their shape. In some cases however we point out definite signs in postmarks of a particular use, in place of a stamp form.

Under the different stamp forms we list:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Long Postmarks | L |
| Thimble Postmarks | F |
| One Circle Postmarks | E |
| Double Circle Postmarks | D |
| Line Postmarks | S |
| Box Postmark | K |
| Wheel Postmark | R |
| Machine Postmark | M |

Chance has it, that all these postmarks begin with one letter (not used elsewhere) so that it also, as well as the shortened designation of the postmark, may be used as a distinguishing mark. This is an advantage, in this book, as too many distinguishing marks, chosen at random, would be confusing.

As already explained, we show here the "travelling" postmarks, among which are certain distinguishing marks arising from their method of use. For which reason, they have been given a certain position outside the list of forms, in spite of their similarity of appearance. They are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| E. D. and R. as Railway Station Postmarks | — | B |
| E. D. and R. as Train Postmarks | — | Z |

Also, here it happens as advantageously as before, that the initial can be looked upon as the abbreviation for this sort of postmark.

The great number of postmark forms, and their method of use is not, of course, thereby exhausted. We find many more postmarks, which on the one hand were used outside of the regular classifications, and on the other hand, such as will not fit into the classes. Their use on stamps does not go back to the preceding grouping, but is a matter of particular service, or are to be regarded merely as accidents.

Among them belong the "Postmarks of the Inner Service," which following the others, takes the initial here — "A".

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Official Postmarks | A |
|--------------------|---|

The second group are those laid aside, or deposited in the Post Office, where here are designated as:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Post Office Deposit Postmarks | P |
|-------------------------------|---|

We must now come to the further factors in the divisions of postmarks and their forms. We consider the place of issue, and the language type of postmarks, which has nothing to do with the nationality, but refers to the difference between one or two language postmarks.

(to be continued)

AIDE MEMOIRE

(Editor's Note: This very interesting document is not like the Pentagon Papers. Any interested person can find the original in the Archives of the United States in Washington. We are publishing it because it is surely of interest to a collector of not only Siberian material but any philatelic items of our specialty. The Aide Memoire is that of President Thomas Woodrow Wilson whose Secretary of State on that date was Robert Lansing.)

The whole heart of the people of the United States is in the winning of this war. The controlling purpose of the Government of the United States is to do everything that is necessary and effective to win it. It wishes to cooperate in every practicable way with the allied governments, and to cooperate ungrudgingly; for it has no ends of its own to serve and believes that the war can be won only by common counsel and intimate concert of action. It has sought to study every proposed policy or action in which its cooperation has been asked in this spirit, and states the following conclusions in the confidence that, if it finds itself obliged to decline participation in any undertaking or course of action, it will be understood that it does so only because it deems itself precluded from participating by imperative consideration either of policy or of fact.

In full agreement with the Allied governments and upon the unanimous advice of the Supreme War Council, the Government of the United States adopted, upon its entrance into the war, a plan for taking part in the fighting on the western front into which all its resources of men and material were to be put, and put as rapidly as possible, and it has carried out that plan with energy and success, pressing its execution more and more rapidly forward and literally putting into it the entire energy and executive force of the nation. This was its response, its very willing and hearty response, to what was the unhesitating judgment alike of its own military advisors and of the advisors of the allied governments. It is now considering, at the suggestion of the Supreme War Council, the possibility of making very considerable additions even to this immense programme which, if they prove feasible at all, will tax the industrial processes of the United States and the shipping facilities of the whole group of associated nations to the utmost. It has thus concentrated all its plans and all its resources upon this single absolutely necessary object.

In such circumstances it feels it to be its duty to say that it cannot, as long as the military situation on the western front remains critical, consent to break or slacken the force of its present effort by diverting any part of its military force to other points or objectives. The United States is at a great distance from the field of action on the western front; it is a much greater distance from any other field of action. The instrumentalities by which it is to handle its armies and its stores have at great cost and with great difficulty been created in France. They do not exist elsewhere. It is practicable for her to do a great deal in France; it is not practicable for her to do anything of importance or on a large scale upon any other field. The American Government, therefore, very respectfully requests its Associates to accept its deliberate judgment that it should not dissipate its force by attempting important operations elsewhere.

It regards the Italian front as closely coordinated with the western front, however, and is willing to divert a portion of its military forces from France to Italy if it is the judgment and wish of the Supreme Command that it should do so. It wishes to defer to the decision of the Commander-in-Chief in this matter, as it would wish to defer in all others, particularly because it considers these two fronts so closely related as to be practically but separate parts of a single

line and because it would be necessary that any American troops sent to Italy should be subtracted from the number used in France and be actually transported across French territory from the ports now used by the armies of the United States.

It is the clear and fixed judgment of the Government of the United States, arrived at after repeated and very searching reconsiderations of the whole situation in Russia, that military intervention there would add to the present and sad confusion in Russia rather than cure it, injure her rather than help her, and that it would be of no advantage in the prosecution of our main design, to win the war against Germany. It cannot, therefore, take part in such intervention or sanction it in principle. Military intervention would, in its judgment, even supposing it to be efficacious in its immediate avowed object of delivering an attack upon Germany from the east, be merely a method of making use of Russia, not a method of serving her. Her people could not profit by it, if they profitted at all, in time to save them from their present distresses, and their substance would be used to maintain foreign armies, not to reconstitute their own. Military action is admissible in Russia as the Government of the United States sees the circumstances, only to help the Czecho-Slovaks consolidate their forces and get into successful cooperation with their Slavic kinsmen and to steady any efforts at self-government or self defense in which the Russians themselves may be willing to accept assistance. Whether from Vladivostok or from Murmansk and Archangel, the only legitimate object for which American or Allied troops can be employed, it submits, is to guard military stores which may subsequently be needed by Russian forces and to render such aid as may be acceptable to the Russians in the organization of their own self-defense. For helping the Czecho-Slovaks there is immediate necessity and sufficient justification. Recent developments have made it evident that that is in the interest of what the Russian people themselves desire, and the Government of the United States is glad to contribute the small force at its disposal for that purpose. It yields, also, to the judgment of the Supreme Command in the matter of establishing a small force at Murmansk, to guard the military stores at Kola and to make it safe for Russian forces to come together in organized bodies in the north. But it owes it to frank counsel to say that it can go no further than these modest and experimental plans. It is not in a position, and has no expectation of being in a position, to take part in organized intervention in adequate force from either Vladivostok or Murmansk and Archangel. It feels that it ought to add, also, that it will feel at liberty to use the few troops it can spare only for the purposes here stated and shall feel obliged to withdraw those forces, in order to add them to the forces at the western front, if the plans in whose execution it is now intended that they shall cooperate should develop into others inconsistent with the policy to which the Government of the United States feels constrained to restrict itself.

At the same time the Government of the United States wishes to say with the utmost cordiality and good will that none of the conclusions here stated is meant to wear the least color of criticism of what the other governments associated against Germany may think it wise to undertake. It wishes in no way to embarrass their choices of policy. All that is intended here is a perfectly frank and definite statement of the policy which the United States feels obliged to adopt for herself and in the use of her own military forces. The Government of the United States does not wish it to be understood that in so restricting its own activities it is seeking, even by implication, to set limits to the action or to define the policies of its Associates.

It hopes to carry out the plans for safeguarding the rear of the Czecho-Slovaks operating from Vladivostok in a way that will place it and keep it in

close cooperation with a small military force like its own from Japan, and if necessary from other Allies, and that will assure it of the cordial accord of all the allied powers; and it proposes to ask all associates in this course of action to unite in assuring the people of Russia in the most public and solemn manner that none of the governments uniting in action either in Siberia or in northern Russia contemplates any interference of any kind with the political sovereignty of Russia, any intervention of her internal affairs, of any impairment of her territorial integrity either now or hereafter, but that each of the associated powers has the single object of affording such aid as shall be acceptable, and only such aid as shall be acceptable, to the Russian people in their endeavor to regain control of their own affairs, their own territory, and their own destiny.

It is the hope and purpose of the Government of the United States to take advantage of the earliest opportunity to send to Siberia a commission of merchants, agricultural experts, labor advisors, Red Cross representatives, and agents of the Young Men's Christian Association to organize the best methods of spreading useful information and rendering educational help of a modest sort, in order in some systematic manner to relieve the immediate economic necessities of the people there in every way for which opportunity may open. The execution of this plan will follow and will not be permitted to embarrass the military assistance rendered in the rear of the westward-moving forces of the Czecho-Slovaks.

Department of State, Washington, July 17, 1918

GENERAL REVENUE STAMPS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

At last we have a small catalogue listing Czechoslovakia's general revenue stamps, giving prices in United States dollars. After several years of research it was compiled by Joseph Burianek of Prague, and our member William Ittel of Pittsburgh, Pa. It is in English and German. It lists 46 different stamps, this does not include the perforation varieties for the period of 1918 to 1938. There is also listed 21 stamps for Bohemia and Moravia, and 34 for Slovakia, and 101 for the 2nd republic and up to date.

The price of the publication is not given. We do not know if a special price is given to Czechoslovakia Philatelic Society members. The authors request information and also would appreciate your comments. Address your inquiries to the publisher, William Ittel, 136 Dickson Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15202.

Some time ago our sales department had sales books with these revenue stamps, and as I see now sold for a song. Here we see the need of a catalogue like this. The perforation varieties command very high prices.

Wolfgang Fritzsche

CLOSED ALBUMS

It is with deep regret we report the passing of member #96, Dr. Egon Berka (Doctor at Law).

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society wishes to express their sincere and heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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In the Slovakia section of the handbook there is a listing of the Hlinka issue of 1939 without the overprint "Slovensky Stat." The 50h and 1kč values are very scarce without the overprint, and a challenge to anyone specializing in Slovakia. The issues came in various perforations, 12½, 10½ and combina-



Fig. 1 — Perf. 10½



Fig. 2 — Perf. 12½



Fig. 3 — Imperf. Gutter

tions of both. They also exist imperforate as do the overprinted issues. The 50 heller value also exists in gutter pairs of both perforations, as well as the illustrated imperforate. A very interesting variety is the illustrated essay of the 2.50 Kč. Note the top values are identical to the 50h and 1kč values only the value is changed. However the bottom copies contain the pearled frame that was incorporated in the later Hlinka issue on the Koruna values. Also note A. Hlinka at the bottom of the pearled frame. This essay is on gummed stamp paper and apple green in color.



Fig. 4 — Imperf. Pair

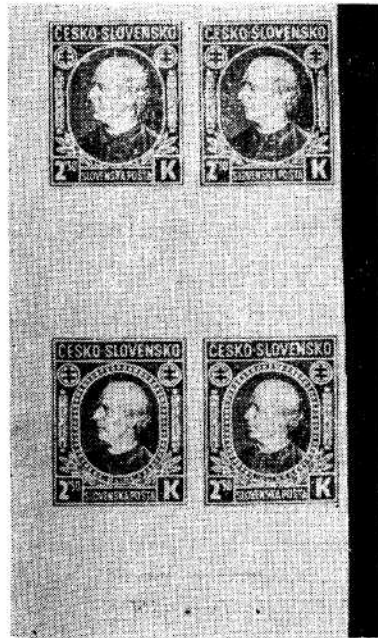
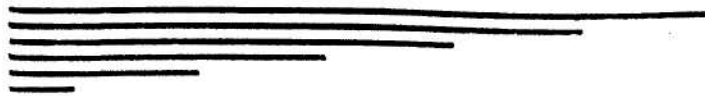


Fig. 5 — Essay

Next month I will write about some of the varieties of this issue with the overprint "Slovensky Stat." Good hunting.



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