

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the  Czechoslovak Philatelic Society

Silver Bronze Award Praga 1968

Editor:

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

Vol. XXXIII

May 1972

No. 5, Whole No. 321

CZECHOSLOVAK COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS 1919-1939

Translated by Dr. Otakar Kutvirt with the collaboration of Wolfgang Fritzsche

The English translations are in parentheses (). Many of the large towns had more than one cancellation and sub-numbered them a, b, c, etc. Many of the cancellations were bi-lingual, having the legend in German, French, Esperanto and Hebrew. Ninety-nine per-cent of the cancels are the two ring type. Various colors were used and they are listed.

1919

Znojmo—Sokolský slet 24.VIII.1919 (Sokol Congress, black)



Opava—Matiční den 31.VIII.1919 (Day of Matice, violet)

Bratislava—Ministerstvo 28.X.1919 (Ministry, black)



Praha 1—Sirotám po Legionářích 28.X.—3.XI. (For legionaires orphans, blue, also green, red, violet)

Praha 1—Same as above but cancel in the shape of linden leaf, green)

1920

Praha—VII. všesokolský slet 25.VI-6.VII—a, b, c (VII All Sokol Congress, blk)

Tesin—Poštovní úřad čs. prefektury 23.VII (Post office of Czechoslovak Prefecture, black)

Cmunt V. Čechách 31.VII a, b (red)

Litomerice L-Leitmeritz 1 Den filatelistický Philatelisten tag 25.IX (Day of the philatelists, black)

1921

Praha—Masarykovy hry 4.VI—a (Masaryk games, black)



Teplice-Šanov Teplitz Schönau 11-13.VI Filatelistický sjezd Filatelisten tag (Philatelists Congress, black)

Praha—Družstevní výstava 24.VI—a, b (Co-operative exhibition, black)

Praha Stadion—Dělnická olympiáda 25.-24.VII—a, b (Workers olympics, blk.)



Brno—Všezahradnický veletrh 14.VII-21.VIII a (Horticultural fair, black)

Praha—XIII univ. kongreso de esperanto 31.VII a, b (XII. Universal Esperanto Congress, black)

Liberec—Sokolský slet 14.VIII a (Sokol meeting, black)

Karlovy Vary—Kongres sionistický 31.VIII.-11.IX (also in Hebrew) (Zionist Congress, black)

Brno 1—Navštěva p. presidenta Masaryka 16.IX (visit by President Masaryk, red)

1922

Praha—Výstava Autobilu 22.IV-1.V a (Automobile show, black)

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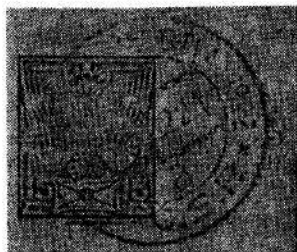
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Editor: William V. Schoenig, 20 Charles Ct., East Patchogue, N. Y. 11772

- Pisek—Jihočeská vystava 15.V a (South Bohemian Exhibit, black)
 Mariánské Lázně 1—Marienbad 1 III. sjezd filatelistů philatelisten tag 3-5 VI
 (IIIrd Philatelist congress, black)
 Brno—Slet orelstva 20.VII-16.VIII a (Orel Congress, black)



- Hodonín—Výstrava 9.VII-15.VIII a (exhibition or fair, black)
 Praha 1—1Mezinárodní sjezd obchodníků post. známkami 27.IX (1st International congress of postage stamp dealers, black, red)
 Hradec Králové 1—Výstava poštovních známek 28.X-2.XI (Postage Stamp exhibition, black)

1923

- Nový Svět Neuwelt VII lyžecský kongres—VII Congr. internat du ski 7-10.11.
 (VII International ski congress, black)



- Moravská Ostrava—Výstava 1.VI-15.VII (fair, black)
 Brno 1—Mezinrodní výstava pošt. známek 5.-15.VIII (1st International stamp exhibition, black)
 Karlovy Vary—Karlsbad—XIII. kongres sionistický 6-17.VIII a, b, also in Hebrew (Zionist congress, black)
 Brno—Výstavní trhy 1923 15-23.VIII (Exhibition, Fair 1923, black)
 Chomutov—Komotau—IV. sjezd filatelistů, IV. Philatelisten tag 7-9.IX (IV Philatelist congress, black)
 Cheb 1—Eger 1—Výstava Ausstellung 25.VIII-10.IX (Exhibition, black)

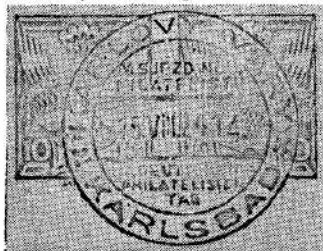
1924

- Ústí n. Labem—Aussig—Výstava Ausstellung 1.VI-31.VIII a,b (Exhibition, blk)
 Litomyšl—Smetanovy oslavy 1924 21.-22.VI (Smetana Commemoration 1924, black)
 Třebíč—1424-1924 30.VI (red and black, 2 types)
 Čáslav Žižkovy oslavy 1924 3, 5, 6, 12, 12.VII (Žižka Commemoration 1924, blk)
 Brno—Výstavní trhy 1924 3.-17.VIII (Exhibition Fair 1924, black)

Karlovy Vary 1—Karlsbad 1—I. těl. slavnosti D. T. S. V., I turnfest der A. T. S. V. 6.VIII (1 Gymnastic festival D. T. S. S., black)



Karlovy Vary—Karlsbad—V, sjezd něm filatelistů V. deutscher philatelisten tag 10-17.VIII (German philatelist congress, black)



Svitavy—Zwittau—Cýstava Ausstellung 1.-8.IX (Exhibition, black)
(To be continued)

AN OPEN INVITATION

To all members in the Metropolitan New York area to attend a dinner at the Praha Restaurant, 1st Avenue and 73rd Street, New York City on June 10th 1972 at 7 p.m. Price is \$7 per person. Reservations should be sent to Mr. Joseph Stein, 2951 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11235. Why not plan to attend and meet fellow members of the Society. The dinners at this restaurant in the past have always been excellent.

We have received word from Dr. Reiner Deutsch that the Karasak book in English will not be published as originally planned. We had published notice of this book in the September 1971 issue of the Specialist. We are very sorry to report this but these are conditions beyond our control. Should we receive further information it will appear in the Specialist.

We also wish to report that Dr. Reiner Deutsch has been asked by the Danish collectors to write an article on Postal History collecting for the program on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Philatelic Society in January 1973. He was also asked to exhibit six frames of postal history items of Czechoslovakia in their court of honor on that occasion. Knowing the Doctor as well as we do we know he will do both. We will persuade him to let us publish the article he writes for this occasion in the Specialist. We are sure it will be of interest to our members.

NEW MEMBERS

- #948 Gordon E. Beyerle, 1200 Piermont Road, South Euclid, Ohio 44121
- #949 Dr. Hugo P. Chott, D.D.S., 306 Bartram Road, Riverside, Ill. 60546
- #950 G. Douglas Murray, R. R. #1, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada

H. R. HARMER, INC., AUCTION
January 11, 12, 13, 1972 — Sales No. 2064 and 2065

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Lot No.		Cat. Prices	
		Value	Realized
807	* 1920 perf. set of three n.h. fine to very fine (C4-6) ---	72.50	21.00
808	* 1921 to 1962, 62 diff., in compl. issues, mounted on album pages o.g., fine to very fine. Betw. C1 and C56 -----	102.05	16.00
1445	* 1925 First Engraving, vert. wmk. 1k carmine, l.h. gum-crease, fine (101A) -----	80.00	33.00
1446	* 2k deep blue i.h., close at right, gum crease, f. (101B) -----	100.00	45.00
Semi-Postal Stamps 1919 Overprinted on Austrian Stamps			
1447	* 6h deep Orange, blk opt., o.g. f. signed H. Bloch (B4) -----	400.00	160.00
1448	* 10k violet, l.h., few nibbed perfs, f. signed Gilbert (B21) -----	110.00	35.00
1449	* 10h carmine on newspaper stamp o.g. VF sign Leseticky (B26) -----	475.00	180.00
1450	* 5h deep green on yellow special handling o.g. very fine Signed Leseticky, etc. (B33) -----	350.00	135.00
1451	* 1.50 & 2.50k on air post o.g. Fine, both signed Gilbert (B37, 38) -----	160.00	45.00
1452	* 4k gray on air post o.h. fine, signed Mrnak, etc. (B39) -----	350.00	120.00
On Postage Dues Stamps			
1453	* 2h carmine o.g. clipped perfs at left, fine, signed A. Stach (B40) -----	1,100	400.00
1454	* 30h carmine o.g. fine, signed H. Bloch (B45) -----	150.00	70.00
1455	* 50h carmine o.g. very fine, signed Mrnak, etc. (B46) -----	300.00	110.00
1456	* 50h carmine o.g. corner perf creased, very fine, signed H. Bloch (B54) -----	175.00	55.00
1457	* 10k Ultramarine o.g. fine signed Leseticky (B57) ---	140.00	42.50
1458	* 1h gray to 50h on 42 chocolate compl. set o.g. or part o.g. (B60), stained perfs. very good to fine #59 signed Leseticky #B62 A.D. (B58-63) -----	175.50	52.50
Overprints on Hungarian Stamps			
1459	* 1f slate l.h. fine signed H. Bloch, Gilbert, etc. (B64) -----	450.00	170.00
1460	* 70f red brown on green o.g. fine, signed H. Bloch, Mrnak (B70) -----	450.00	160.00
1461	* 10f rose 15f violet o.g. 10f centered to left, fine, #B71 Signed H. Bloch, Mrnak (B71-72) -----	165.00	50.00
1462	* 10k violet brown and violet o.g. f, sign H. Block (B90) -----	375.00	120.00
On Postage Due Stamps			
1463	* 12f green and black o.g. fint crease, Fine, signed H. Block (B106) -----	950.00	310.00
1464	* 50f green and black o.g. F, signed Mrnak, etc. (B107) -----	85.00	25.00
1465	* 1f green and black l.h. nibbed perfs, fine, signed Mrnak (B110) -----	175.00	70.00
1466	* 1f to 30f compl. set o.g. or part o.g. mixed centering, very good to fine (B115-23) -----	106.50	25.00
1467	* 1925 Olympic set of three, o.g. fine (B137-39) -----	63.50	19.00
1468	* 1926 Sokol Games set compl. o.g. fine, 2 signed Gilbert (B140-43) -----	59.25	18.00
1469	* Removed		
1470	* 1919-1963 coll. of 625 diff. incl. fine assort. of semi-postals, few air post, postage due, Bohemia and Slovakia (incl. #2-23), l.h. to o.g. very fine unused generally fine, est. Cash val \$150		150.00

BOOK REVIEW: "FILATELISTICKY MARATON" by Jiří Nováček

Published by MERKURFILA, BRNO, 1971

Submitted by H. Hahn

Bearing in mind the aftermath of events that followed Praga '68, publication of Filatelistický Maratón at this late date may be excusable. The book, encompassing 235 pages of text, 48 pages of illustrations, all in an artistically meritorious binding is concerned primarily with the administrative and human side of the Praga '68 World Exhibition. If the book is to be merely an epilogue to the greatest philatelic show on earth, those readers preferring epilogues to philatelic reading will quickly purchase the 10,000 copies printed and learn of the trials and tribulations of the organizers, exhibitors and visitors whose acts and thoughts have thus been recorded for posterity.

Spread among reams of interesting statistics and budgets useful to future organizers of Pragas, one reads of numerous incidents, which we suppose will bring forth a tear or chuckle. We are to suppose that the good Mrs. Štěřbová had clearly carried out the mandate of the Chicago philatelists when she planted her kiss on none other than Czechoslovakia's President Svoboda. To boot, the smack was noisy! (New York and Washington kisses wouldn't have been). Closer to home, we learn that the Czechoslovak Specialist (OUR Specialist is the ONLY publication in the world devoted exclusively to Czechoslovak philately—not bad for a bunch of kissing cousins!

To some, Filatelistický Maraton serves as the first comprehensive Who's Who in Czech and world philately. We find our friends Verner, Janečka, Bližil, Fritzsche, Velek, Reiner-Deutsch, and others mentioned, quoted, or interviewed. These members of our Society represented us well, both through the honors they brought back and by what they are quoted as saying. Another tid-bit of interest to the American reader is a comment on page 169 to the effect that "according to the experts, Artia is the most expensive of all socialist countries' exporters of stamps"—(don't we know it!) But fortunately, that's all the sales advertising one finds in the book.

The battle of the giants of Czech prize exhibits—Mahr's vs. Kvasnička's and its outcome are highlighted in a chapter describing some of the major collections shown. Zdenek Kvasnička's Grand National Award and Large Gold Medal winning exhibit, though all too briefly described, represents one of the highlights of the entire work.

Filatelistický Maratón can hardly be compared to any of the exemplary philatelic works which the Czechoslovaks have published in recent years (Monografie I, Novotný, Padělky, etc.). It certainly isn't as amusing as Herst's "Nassau Street"—but sheer amusement was not the author's motive. If judged by the criterion of permanent philatelic value, we would rather have seen the forthcoming parts of Monografie published per long-awaited schedule. But publishing the Maraton was, and it will, no doubt, be a sell-out at 66Kčs; the "čenotisk" bonus kicker has yet to fail!

WE GOOFED

Although we have had #943 Edward O. Tabor, Jr. on our membership list since November 1971, we somehow did not add his name to the new members published in January 1972 issue. We have no excuse to offer for this most obvious oversight. We apologize to Mr. Tabor and hope he will forgive us. The listing follows:

#943 Edward O. Tabor, Jr., 7465 Keystone Lane, Forestville, Md. 20028

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

III. BOX POSTMARK**1. Place Postmark**

KU1 Eight-sided, rectangular postmark, inscription in three lines,
Place, date with the time and day, "postal agyn"
meaning postal agency

2. Railway Freight Postmark

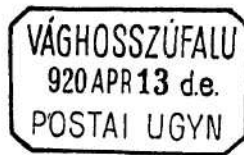
KU2 Four-sided, rectangular postmark, divided into three parts, vertically
The place of issue and the word "Kiadatott,"
Followed by the day and month, in Roman numerals,
Followed by the time of day of issue,
Showing the word "Delelott" (forenoon) or "Delutan" (afternoon)

IV. MONEY PAYMENT POSTMARK

AU2 Money payment postmark, inscription divided,
Above the place of issue, below the word "Penzrovatolas"



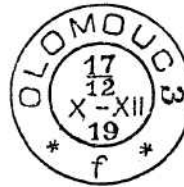
BU I



KU I



AU 2



D IV



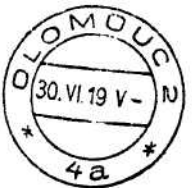
BU 2



KU 2



R IV



R VII



2e



R VIII



Z U I

POSTMARK DECORATION

As has already been explained at the end of the introduction to the Hungarian postmarks, these have, in the inner part of the circle, a more or less elaborate decoration, which must be more clearly explained here.



V 1a:



V 1b:



V 1c:



V 1d:



V 1e:



V 1f:



V 1g:



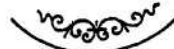
V 1h:



V 1i:



V 1k:



V 1l:



V 1m:



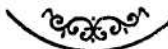
V 1n:



V 1o:



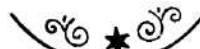
V 1p:



V 1q:



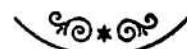
V 2a:



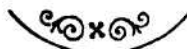
V 3a:



V 3b:



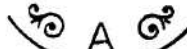
V 3c:



V 3d:



V 4a:



V 4b:



V 4c:



V 4d:



V 4e:



V 4f:



V 4g:

Their divisions follow:

1. Scroll decoration

V1

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 2. Star decoration | V2 |
| 3. Star with scroll decoration | V3 |
| 4. Letter with scroll decoration | V4 |

With these examples, it cannot be said that all forms of decoration are included, and there is moreover, the possibility of further types, which may be easily brought about by the addition of further letters to the groups.

BETWEEN OR TRANSITION POSTMARKS

As cited on page 36 (the order of January 15, 1919, along with the decree of the Ministry of Post Offices and Telegraphs), brought in sight, or prospect, the supplying of the postmasters with new place and date postmarks.

Excellent as this plan was, it appears to have been so difficult to carry out, that in the official book of orders, we find the following notice:

"June 10, 1919

With the preparation of the new place and date postmarks, which are already begun, the former old postmarks, will be successively exchanged. Should the new place and date postmarks not reach the postmasters immediately, for the year 1920, the 'day' inset is to be exchanged for the 'year' inset."

Thus, the uncertainty of the time of the exchange gave to some postmasters the opportunity of arranging the postmarks to suit themselves. These changes came about either with the use of the old stamp tools, with the displacing or changing of the old inscription, or through new additions to the whole. There were, therefore, forms similar to those of Austria and Hungary. Their use, in the time before the introduction of the true C.S.P. postmarks (which had, in single language postmarks, the letters C.S.P. in the lower arc of the circle; and in double language postmarks, the letters C.S.P. in the upper inner segment of the circle); their use, makes it necessary for the avoidance of errors, to take notice of them here, although they do not belong to the programme of this Handbook.

Since these, really foreign postmark forms do not belong to those taken over from Austria and Hungary, and so experienced no additional nationalization, in view of their unofficial character, in general stand outside of the normal series, and they can find no classification under any other group. In order therefore, to put them in their apparent place, we have separated them into their corresponding place in the whole system, although they are characterized in the postmark form with Roman numerals, and indeed, always after the actual post form, with the equivalent Arabic number.

It should be brought to attention, that only those postmarks similar to the forms which were taken over were dealt with here, for besides these, in the transition period, there were still a great number of others, whose introduction here is not necessary, because they deviate from the usual form, and also in the method of their use, so that a confusion is not to be feared. Their classification must remain over till a later work.

- D IV Double circle postmark, inscription single language above, with the hour of issue, with the post office number, under the postmark letter with star decoration left and right
This is a transition postmark, produced by means of a converted stamping tool. (Double circle postmark D26(?))
- R IV Wheel postmark, inscription single language above, with the post office number underneath the postmark letter, with the cross decoration left and right from the date opening
This is a transition postmark, presumably produced by a converted stamping tool. (Wheel postmark R24(?))

- R VII Wheel postmark, inscription single language above, with post office number, with hour of issue, underneath the postmark number, with star or decoration. This is a Transition postmark, probably produced by a converted stamping tool. (Wheel postmark R26(?))
- R XVIII Wheel postmark, inscription double language, divided above and below, decoration between the inscriptions, inner circle segments "hatched." This is a Transition postmark, probably completely newly made. This Hungarian-like postmark (also Swiss type) possessed indeed, almost no possibilities of confusion with the Austrian postmarks, but becomes the complete Transition postmark.

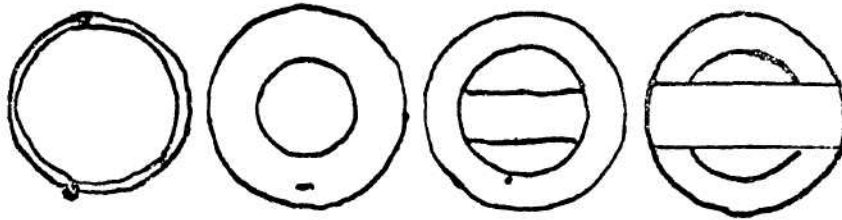
THE LAYING OUT OF A COLLECTION OF CSR FORERUNNER POSTMARKS

It is indeed scarcely to be doubted that this Handbook will have contributed much to interest a wide circle in this subject. However postmarks are different from stamps, particularly in the basis on which they are divided, since they are somewhat more detailed to handle, than are stamps of fixed denominations. In order then to avoid irrelevant material, and the inevitable annoyance, some rules are given here.

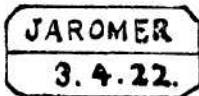
The most important question is, where the beginning and end of such a collection lies. The significance of a postmark collection lies first of all in their historic value, and so it becomes necessary that the Czech collection should reach back into that time when its separate parts still possessed other allegiance. The former Austrian places, with postmarks on Austrian and Hungarian stamps are forthcoming, as well as the once Hungarian, and before 1867 Austrian places, all appear on Austrian and Hungarian stamps; while the Hultschiner Landchen will show on Prussian stamps, postmarks of the North German Postal system—and Reichspost. Only by such wide inclusions will the scope of a postmark collection be correct. This undertaking is certainly very big, and the majority of collectors must be content with pieces from the chief places, for example, in the series of the leading examples with the postmarks of PRAG-PRAHA, PRESSBURG-PZSONY-BRATISLAVA, and the number postmarks of Hultschin on Prussian stamps, and the Hlucin postmark in the Reichspost. These forerunners include the postmarks dealt with in this book. The continuation of the historical picture, requires now a going-over to the true C.S.P. postmarks, and whoever chooses to do that, can look back to the different forms of these postmarks.

Nothing would be more unprofitable to begin with, than an album. Not even after the appearance of Part II. One can never be sure what manner of piece of paper will be needed to hold the postmarks and the still missing pieces. Such an opening would frequently cause confusion, and result in distaste for the subject. Before a postmark collection has progressed very far only card forms should be used. Loose leaves of strong paper, 20 cm wide and 15 cm high permit the bringing together of about four cutoff postmarks or complete cover, and still leave at the upper border enough room for the entering of the place of issue. This, each collector must be sure to do, for if the place name is lacking on the page, a great deal of time will be wasted in searching for postmarks. The pages themselves must be scrupulously arranged in alphabetical order. The pieces themselves, according to their size, and with one or two careful folds, may be stuck on like stamps, in order that they may be seen.

(NOTE: There is a great deal more, all on the same vein, which we have not bothered to transcribe. The main part of the Handbook is already covered.)



Vlaková pošta
Topolčany-Nové Zámky

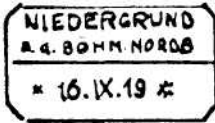


Poštovna
Velké Kosmálovce



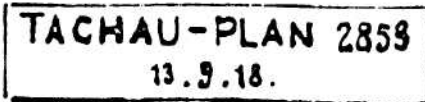
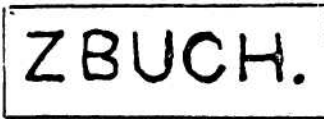
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KOŠICE



LIBOCHWITZ-LOBOSITZ
ZUG 2614

FAHRENDES POSTAMT
KULLEIN-BIELITZ N:73



BI-ANNUAL MEETING AND EXHIBITION AT NOJEX

The North Jersey Federation of Stamp Clubs was organized in 1960 for the purpose of banding together all the philatelic clubs in the northern half of the state of New Jersey. It started with about six clubs. Within the span of twelve years, it increased its membership to twenty clubs and held ten exhibits. Through its editor, Jerry Neufeld, it published the North Jersey Philatelist, a monthly periodical, which is distributed to the members of its affiliated clubs. Today the Federation operates under the name of NOJEX, with Sidney Schneider as its president. It is planning its eleventh philatelic exhibition for October 27, 28 and 29 to be held at the Coachman's Inn in Cranford, New Jersey.

Our Society, which has not participated in any philatelic competition since the SEPAD exhibition in Philadelphia in October 1970, will be one of three major clubs represented at NOJEX in Cranford this October. The other two clubs are the Postal History Society and the German Philatelic Society. The bi-annual meeting of the CZPS will take place there in conjunction with the exhibits.

Emil Michaelson has been appointed exhibition chairman for the Society. Applications to exhibit can be obtained by writing to him at 1833 Arbor Lane, Union, N. J. 07083. Exhibits will be mounted in SIPEX-type frames of 36 by 48 inches which accommodate 16 standard-size pages or 12 oversize pages. The fee will be \$4.50 per frame.

Dr. Reiner-Deutsch will head up the judges' panel consisting of Henry Hahn and one other judge to be named shortly. Each of the three participating Societies is committed to a minimum of 40 frames. The newest branch of the CZPS, the New Jersey chapter which meets the first Tuesday of each month in Plainfield, has polled its members and assured the President that ten frames can be expected from that branch alone. The Brooklyn branch has accepted this challenge and is expected to come close to, or possibly even exceed, that number. Entries are also anticipated from Washington, Chicago and from individuals in various parts of the country. Emil Michaelson expressed optimism in discussing the forthcoming exhibit with Joseph Stein, who was our exhibition chairman at SEPAD two years ago. Both of them are hopeful that this year's participation will outshine our noteworthy participation at SEPAD at which CZPS entered 41 frames.

Awards will consist of a Grand Award along with gold, silver and bronze section trophies to be given by NOJEX in its overall competition. For our own exhibitors, the Society will present its own gold, silver and bronze awards to winners along with the President's special award for the best novice exhibit.

The bi-annual meeting of the CZPS will take place on Saturday, October 28 at 11 AM at the Coachman's Inn. The program for this meeting will be announced in the next issue of the Specialist. Those planning to attend from out of town may make reservations for overnight accommodations at the Coachman's Inn. As guests of NOJEX, they might receive courtesy discounts for overnight rates, provided reservations are made well in advance. Of course, there are other nearby hotels and motels which might provide facilities on shorter notice. All in all, the affair promises to be a big philatelic event and the Society is preparing to play its part on this occasion.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of J. C. Voytek on his recent death.

The Society wishes a very speedy recovery to Mrs. Thomas Buresch who is recuperating from her recent illness.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND THE
BYLAWS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

A Message to the Membership from the President:

As most members well know, the Society has been plagued in recent years with problems. Some were minor, but others were quite serious, almost to the point of tearing the Society apart. We all want and need a smooth-running Society so that we may amicably and fruitfully pursue our common interest—Czech philately.

The Council of the Society has spent many months examining ways and means to improve the operation of the Society so that all members may obtain the maximum benefits to which they are entitled.

For example, the manner in which our biannual elections are conducted has been the subject of much controversy. Too often, we have been criticized for "one-slate" elections. The members indirectly expressed their dissatisfaction simply by not voting. There was a time when the job of running the Society was placed in the hands of a group of members who were willing to spend much valuable time in carrying out the various tasks involved. No one can deny they did a credible job. However, the Council feels it is time for a change. We would like to secure the fullest participation possible by the membership in overseeing the active conduct of the Society.

Therefore, the Council proposes extensive amendments to our Constitution and Bylaws. The most important changes are to the election procedure of Article VI of the Constitution. The principal features of the proposed new election procedure are these: There is a built-in provision for the nomination of at least two candidates for the office of President, and for the nomination of one or more persons to some of the other offices. Also, the proposals require the periodic rotation of the office of President among members, interested in holding the office, from each of the three regions of the Society—East, Central, West. This is designed to permit each region to share more equitably in the affairs and operations of the Society. The provisions may appear complicated, but we are confident that the membership will recognize the merits of the proposed election reform once the changes are studied.

Among the numerous other changes proposed are these: Lowering the voting age for our elections and for regular membership to 18; a new youth membership group; the detailing of the relationship between the President and the various committees and appointive offices of the Society; increasing patron membership dues because of increased costs of printing and binding the Specialist, and; reactivating and expanding our library's services and facilities.

We believe the various changes proposed, if approved by the membership, will breathe new life into the Society, and will enable all of us, within clearly defined guidelines, to concentrate on the furtherance of our hobby.

Because of their length, the proposed changes to the Constitution and the Bylaws are being presented in two parts. With the second part, next month's issue of the Specialist also will include a ballot so that members may vote on all eight proposals. The ballot will be arranged in such a way that a member may vote on each proposal separately.

Only by your vote will we know whether we are advancing the Society in the direction you want. This is YOUR Society; we, the Council are merely your servants. Only you can give us the opportunity to steer your Society toward your best philatelic interests, both individually and collectively. Please be sure to vote.

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

Proposal Number One:

Article III (MEMBERSHIP), Sections 1, 2, and 3 are amended to read as follows:

1. The Society shall consist of patron members, regular members, associate members and youth members.

2. Any stamp collector eighteen years of age or older of good character shall be eligible for election as patron member, regular member or associate member. Any stamp collector who has attained his fourteenth birthday but has not yet reached his eighteenth birthday will be eligible for election as youth member. Any person, who shall have been nominated by one member in good standing, who shall have paid the first year's dues and who shall have been endorsed by the Regional Vice President, shall be elected to membership. Non collecting dealers shall not be admitted to membership.

3. Residents of foreign countries may, upon application, be elected as associate members or youth members, but shall have no voice in the nomination or election of officers. Associate members and youth members may hold appointive offices, but not elective offices.

Proposal Number Two:

Article IV (OFFICERS AND COUNCIL), Section 1 is amended to read as follows:

1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents (Eastern, Central and Western), a National Secretary, an International Secretary, a Treasurer and an Editor. The President and the three Vice-Presidents shall be elected for a term of two years. Each of these four officers may be re-elected for one additional term of office, subject to the provisions of Article VI. The National Secretary, International Secretary, Treasurer and Editor shall be elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected for additional terms of office.

Proposal Number Three:

Article V (COMMITTEES), Sections 4, 5 and 6 are amended, and a new Section 7 is proposed, to read as follows:

4. There shall be a Librarian appointed by the President. The Librarian will be entrusted with the care and maintenance of all philatelic books and literature bought by the Society or donated to it, and shall conduct the affairs of the affairs of the Library according to the rules and regulations approved by the Council. He will submit a list of all material in the Library together with an annual report of the activities of the Library over the past twelve months to the President not later than March 1 of each year.

5. There shall be a Sales Manager appointed by the President. The Sales Manager shall conduct the affairs of the Sales Department according to the rules and regulations approved by the Council. He will submit an annual report to the President of the status and activities of the Sales Department over the past twelve months not later than March 1 of each year.

6. There shall be a Nominating Committee which shall be appointed by the President not later than May 1 of the election year. This Committee shall consist of three members who are either patron members or regular members but who are not officers. The Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates for elective offices as specified in Article VI.

7. There shall be a Youth Chairman appointed by the President. The Youth Chairman will himself be a youth member and will preside over the Youth Division of the Society. He will submit periodic reports of the activities of the Youth Division to the President as the President may direct.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**Proposal Number One:**

Section 1 of the Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

1. Membership dues shall be as follows: Patron members, Fifteen dollars; Active members, Five dollars; Youth members, Three dollars. The fiscal year shall begin on January 1. Anyone accepted as an associate member or as a youth member after June 30 shall pay one-half of the annual dues for the balance of the year.

Proposal Number Two:

Section 2 of the Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

2. Each member who has paid his annual dues shall be entitled to receive one copy of the Czechoslovak Specialist as it is published. Patron members also shall receive one bound volume of the year's issues at the end of the year.

Proposal Number Three:

Section 5 of the Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

5. Members who fail to pay their dues by May 1 of the current year, after due notice that the same were in arrears, may be suspended from membership by the Council. Members so suspended may be reinstated by the Council upon notification by the National Secretary that the dues in arrears have been received.

Proposal Number Four:

Section 7 of the Bylaws is amended to read as follows:

7. A member in good standing may borrow any single book from the Library and may retain such book up to ten weeks at the rental fee of ten cents per week. If another member or nonmember requests the same book while it is out on loan, the person having possession of the book will be notified by mail and will return the book at the end of the fifth week, or immediately if the book has already been held for five weeks. Non-members may borrow any single book from the Library provided they identify themselves as members in good standing of a recognized philatelic club and are residents of the United States. Non-members may retain any borrowed book up to four weeks at the rental fee of twenty cents per week. All borrowers must pay the cost of postage both ways. Any person who fails to pay the replacement cost of any book lost, destroyed or mutilated while in his possession will be disqualified from borrowing further books from the Library. All persons borrowing books from the Library will deposit with the Librarian One Dollar with every request for a book. This deposit, less the rental fee and the cost of postage to mail the book to the borrower, will be refunded when the book is returned to the Library.

We recently received a note from member Alec McMillan, 50 Sunnybrae Road, Takapuna, Auckland 10, New Zealand, and would like to pass along part of it. Mr. McMillan is a member of the ship's crew that runs between Auckland and Cook Islands, and is at home every three weeks. He is a keen collector of Postal History of Czechoslovakia, he also states he was very fortunate in that he entered his postal history collection in an exhibition in New Zealand and won a bronze medal, he was very pleased as this was his first attempt to exhibit. He goes on to say out in New Zealand they are rather isolated and getting information especially on Czech material is not easy. He wonders if there are any members who would like to correspond with him on postal history. If any of the members collect packet boat covers he can always get them from his ship. We hope some of our members will start to correspond with this gentleman. We feel sure it will be rewarding and advantageous to both.

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