

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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Silver Bronze Award Praga 1968

Vol. XXXVI

April 1974

No. 4, Whole No. 340

CZECH 1918 SCOUT POSTAL CARD

by Lester A. Behnke and Jan Dvorak

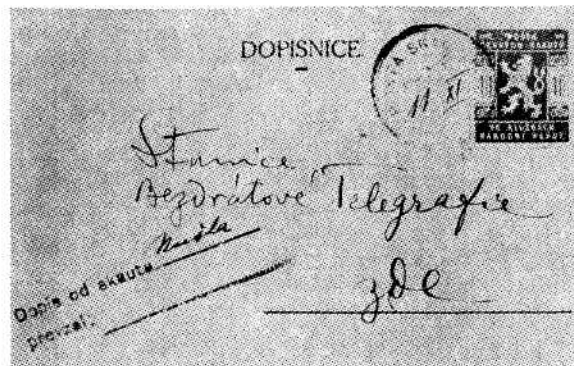


Fig. 1

The 10h and 20h Czech Scout stamps were issued in relatively large numbers (30,000 of the 10h and 50,000 of the 20h), but only about 1,000 of the 10h postal card were made, using the same die as for the 10h stamp. A considerable number of covers with the stamps are in collections, but very few of the postal card are to be seen. A brief summary of the uses of the stamps, compared to the use of the postal card, will be helpful in understanding the scarcity of the latter.

The stamps were used on envelopes prepared by the National Committee;

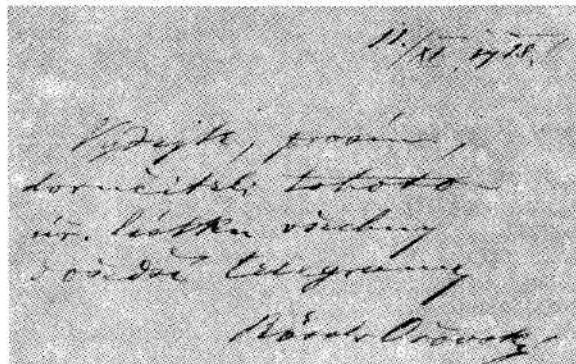


Fig. 2

envelopes received in Prague from other towns and addressed to the National Committee; and those sent from various locations in Prague and addressed to local offices, and to individuals. These stamps were also placed on telegrams before delivery to the addressee—usually the National Committee and its members, some were even used for the delivery of newspapers and pamphlets. In other words, there were many places of origin, many destinations, and many covers in existence.

The postal card on the other hand, was intended only for use by the Scout leaders for Scout purposes as shown in the accompanying illustrations. There are today in collections, probably several hundred at least of the stamps on covers, but not more than several dozen mint and used postal cards.

Figs. 1 and 2 illustrate a card used II.XI addressed to the Wireless Station requesting that "All of the telegrams received be handed the deliverer of this official card." It is signed by Rössler-Orovsky, the President of the Scout Organization.

Figs. 3 and 4 show a card written on 19.XI to Filip Vracha, and delivered the following day by Scout Kalibera. This is in the handwriting of Capt. Rössler-Orovský, Jr., and reads as follows:

Parliament, 19 Nov. 1918

Dear Bracha:

The detachment of the troop stationed at the Castle (Hradčany, seat of the President and the government) will receive in the Castle, free lunches, dinners and breakfasts including lodgings at the guard room. Tin containers they own. Look to it that the boys have good and clean blankets. Also soap! Blocks of receipts you will get from the National Committee. Issue a receipt with the rubber stamp of Junak—Czech Scout. The copies of orders do not give up, we have to keep them for the time, to be able to prove how many cases and pieces our scouts have processed. I have sent further three scouts to the Wireless Station at Letná (a Prague street) to deliver safely radio messages to the National Committee and to the Castle. Report to Prof. Nusla what is being done at the Wireless Station. This letter will be delivered to you by some boy of the IIrd or IIIrd troop. Give him the official report of Nov. 1st to Nov. 15th.

Yours, Capt. R. O. Jun.

Fig. 5 shows the reverse of a card typewritten in a standard form, and then filled in with a date and the name of the Scout as a certification. It reads as follows:

Karel Hiller, Student IIIa of the Real Gymnasium in Libeň (Prague) is on duty as a Scout in the building of the National Council, or Ministry of the Interior.

Prague, Nov. 21. 1918

(Signed) J. Kalibera

Leader of the day.

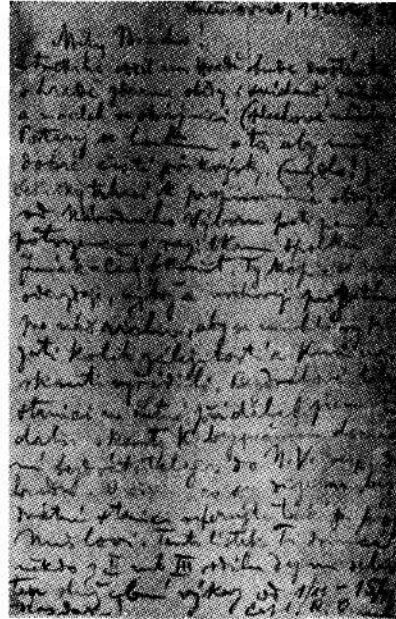


Fig. 4

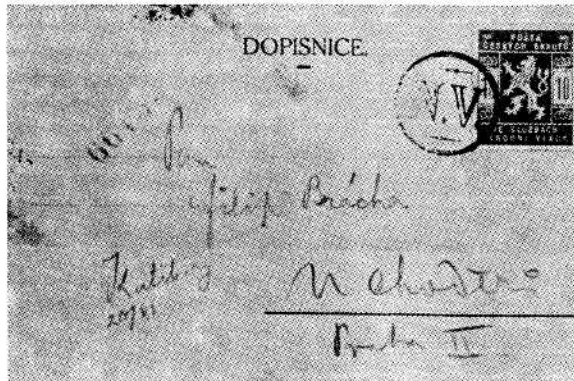


Fig. 3

Fig. 6 shows the reverse of another card, also typewritten in a standard form, dated 12/11, signed by Orovský himself, plus the handstamp of the Presidium of the Czech Scouts, with a message reading:

To whom it may concern:

Hand over to the deliverer (of this card) the received telegrams.

A few postal cards exist with the overprinted Masaryk stamp added, and cancelled 21/XII, the only day of use of the Masaryk stamps, one of which is illustrated in Fig. 7. It is addressed to A. Svojsik, the Founder of Scout-

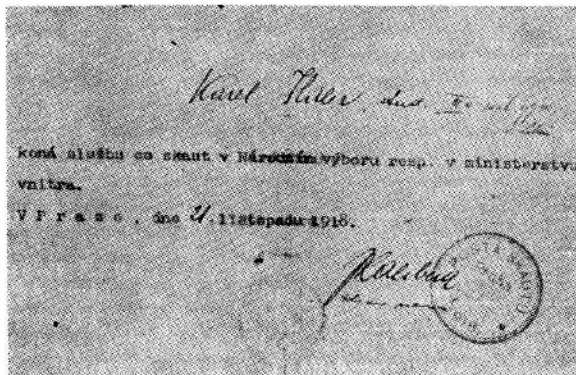


Fig. 5

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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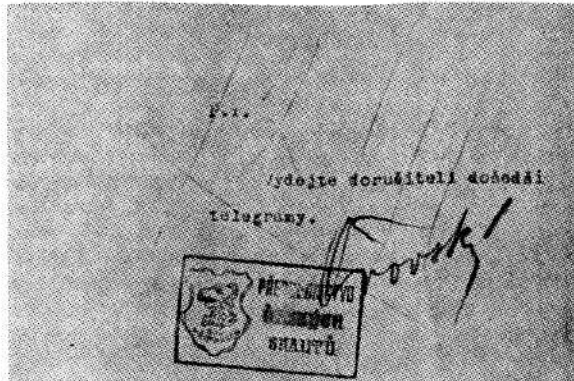


Fig. 6

ing in Czechoslovakia, and Chief Scout of Junak, (Scout Association).

There are today, probably several hundred of the stamps on covers in collections, but not more than several dozen mint and used postal cards.

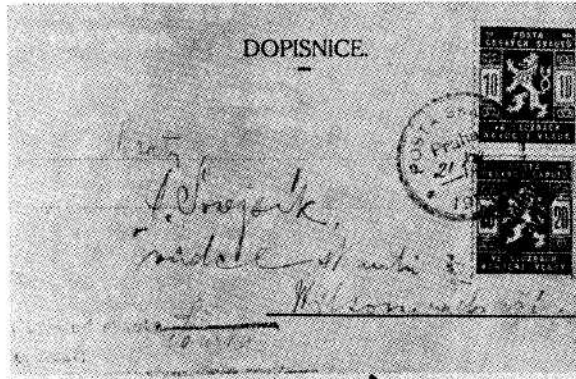


Fig. 7

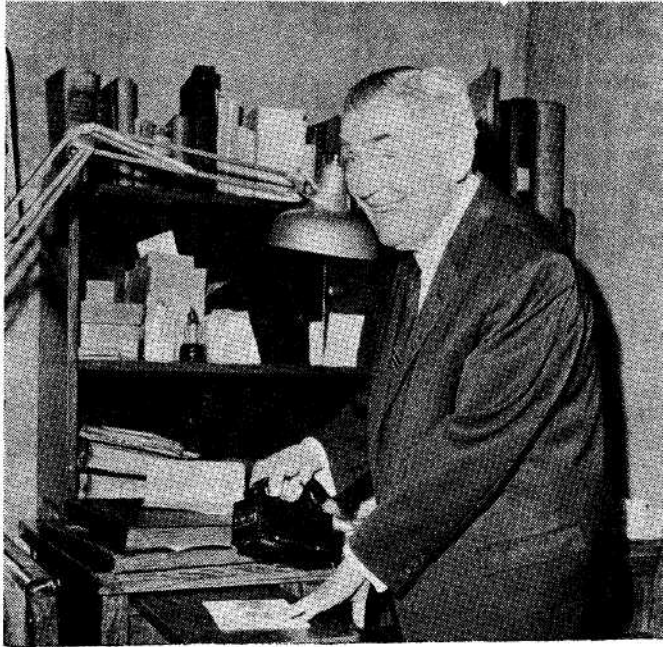
COMPEX JUST A FEW WEEKS OFF

The SOCIETY'S 1974 BIENNIAL CONVENTION AND EXHIBIT, which will take place in Chicago, May 24-26 is now close enough to spring into action. Those of you planning to come from out-of-town and wish to stay at the La Salle, where the Convention and Exhibit will take place, should immediately contact Dr. James J. Matejka Jr. (Suite 215, Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Ill. 60602) who has graciously offered to arrange for reservations. Those needing extra application blanks for exhibit participation—or who have misplaced the blanks received in last month's SPECIALIST—still have time to contact the Society's Convention Co-chairman, Charles Chesloe (Box 237, Willow Springs, Ill. 60480) for blanks and information.

Up-to-the minute news by Co-chairmen Charley Chesloe and Melvin Klozar
(Continued bottom page 62)

CHANGE IN ADDRESS

830 Thomas Meeks, 101 Clark Street, Apt. 16G, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201

FRANK J. KOVARIK

We have lost a true champion with the passing, on February 9, 1974, of one of our beloved founders and for nearly twenty years Editor of the **SPECIALIST**, Frank J. Kovarik. In his 76 years of life, Frank did much we will remember him for, both in and out of philately.

Professionally, Frank was a retired post office supervisor at the time of his passing. His vast philatelic library and award-winning collections included, besides Czechoslovakia, also the United Nations, Switzerland, Vatican States, Luxemburg and Spain. He was honored by Czechoslovakia with the Medal for Distinguished Service to Philately, was a recipient of the Newberry Award of the Chicago Philatelic Society, and was made Honorary Member of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately and Honorary Life Member of COMPEX. His memberships included the American Philatelic Society, the Society for Philatelic Americans, the Philatelic Press Club, A.I.J.P., the Philatelic Foundation, the Bureau Issues Society, the American Philatelic Congress, the Society for Czechoslovak Philately and the Chicagoland Philatelic Society of which he was secretary.

Outside of philately, Frank was a member of the Cardinal Council—Knights of Columbus; the Catholic Order of Foresters and was a counselor and merit badge examiner for the Boy Scouts of America.

The Society wishes to express its condolences to his four sisters, Matilda Kovarik, Mrs. Alvina Muckendorf, Mrs. Frances Siblik and Mrs. Marie Cervený, and to his brother John. To all of us, Frank Kovarik was a mentor and man of peace. Peace now be with him.

From the Editor's Stock Book

What sad irony that now, as we plan our first truly united Convention and Show, we must do so without two men who so richly deserved to be there and witness the end of a ten-year rift in our SOCIETY. John Velek and Frank Kovarik will no doubt be remembered by us in silent tribute. Let their sacred member be a reminder to us of the shortness of time in which to enjoy and relish the bonds of friendship and joy in our common pastime.

I shall make no attempt to even touch upon Frank Kovarik's role as Editor of the SPECIALIST. We are fortunate in having in our midst numerous former editors who are far better qualified. Yet, when I began in September of 1972, Frank was among the first to offer his advice and help. His style of philatelic writing is crisp and clear; one must only turn to the January 1974 issue for his summary and translation of Ivo Kvasnička's article "Two Interesting Covers from Czechoslovak Scout Postal History." His last communication is dated January 29th '74, in which he wrote: "Dear Henry: There are (I'm sure) postmark collectors in our Society. Years ago I had the enclosed made, with the intention of having a printing plate made of it for the SPECIALIST—but didn't get around to it . . ." We immediately got around to it. It is a complete transliteration and translation of Ruthenian post offices. Frank's notation indicates that it was originally published by Alois Wiesner in Prague, in 1927. Otakar Krejci, our frequent and mostly anonymous translator, was kind enough to provide a camera-ready copy of the entire listing enabling us to run the item in this issue.

By the time this issue reaches our members, Joe and Irma Stein will be receiving their copy in sunny San Diego. This will make Joe our furthest flung Director, and clearly puts San Diego on the philatelic map. However, Brooklyn, Joe and Irma's previous home is now reconciled due to our Treasurer, Tom Meeks', recent move there from Manhattan. Best of fortune in both new homes!

March has been a month in which considerable progress has been made in many of the projects embarked upon at the December '73 meeting of the Directors. Our COMPEX activities are progressing with due speed and efficiency thanks to our able co-chairmen Melvin Klozar and Charley Chesloe. We have received the cuts and illustrations for publication of the English translation of Prof. Roger Richet's excellent book on Sudeten issues. In addition, the original edition (in French) will soon be available through the SOCIETY (at \$55.50 plus postage). Mrs. Henry Stollnitz has completed her first draft of the CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST INDEX: 1964-1973 which will contain some 175 citations—a vast and comprehensive job by a courageous lady who recognized the need and volunteered for this assignment in the course of our NAPEX business meeting in Washington. Mrs. Stollnitz is being assisted by Mr. M. Klozar, Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, and (volunteer or not) her husband Henry. The order for printing of the Czechoslovakia section of the Higgins & Gage Catalogue has been placed and should be in our members hands (without charge to paid-up members) well before the end of May.

A gesture by a new member of the SOCIETY, Mr. Miroslav V. Schubert of Washington, D. C., has made those of us bringing you the SPECIALIST each month feel proud and sort of good all over. Mr. Schubert has told our feature writer, Richard Gray, that he feels our dues are rather low considering the calibre of the SPECIALIST and all the other fine services the SOCIETY offers. Not only has Mr. Schubert changed his membership to PATRON MEMBERSHIP, but in addition has sent us an extra \$10 for our SPECIALIST fund.

HH

INDEX OF RUTHENIAN POST OFFICES AND POSTAL STATIONS WITH
CZECH LANGUAGE EQUIVALENTS

Submitted by Frank J. Kovarik

The following index represents the status as of July 1, 1927 and as published by the firm Alois Wiesner in Prague.

Анталовце	Antalovce	Липча	Lipča
Баркасово	Barkasovo	Лjuta	Ljutá
Батьово	Batovo	Ляльово	Lalovo
Беня	Beňa	Майдан	Majdan
Береги	Berehy	Малый Березный	Malý Berezny
Берегово	Berehovo	Мочоля	Mochola
Бовтрадь	Boutradě	Мужийово	Mužijovo
Богдан	Bohdan	Мукачево	Mukačevo
Брод над Иршавоу	Brod nad Iršavou	Нересница	Neresnice
Брод над Тисоу	Brod nad Tisou	Нижне Березки	Nižní Verecky
Бужчино	Buštino	Нижня Апша	Nižní Apša
Белки	Bilky	Новый Кленовець	Nový Klenovec
Варе	Vary	Олешник	Olešník
Велика Берань	Veliká Běhaň	Оса	Osa
Велика Добронь	Veliká Dobron	Паланок	Palanok
Велика Копаня	Veliká Kopaňa	Перечин	Perečín
Велике Гейовце	Veliké Gejovce	Петрово	Petrovo
Велике Комнята	Veliké Komnaty	Подгоряны	Podhořany
Велике Лучки	Veliké Loučky	Поляна	Polana u Svalavy
Великий Березный	Veliký Berezny	Порошков	Porčokov
Великий Бочков	Veliký Bočkov	Ракошино	Rákošín
Великий Палад	Veliký Palad	Рахов	Rachov
Воловець	Volovec	Росвегово	Rosvegovo
Волове	Volové	Свалява	Svalava
Волосянка	Volosjanka	Севлюш	Sevluš
Вульховце	Vulchovce	Середня Апша	Střední Apša
Вышково над Тисоу	Výškovo nad Tisou	Середньое	Seredné
Велок	Výlok	Синьвир	Sinovír
Гать	Hať u Berehova	Сокирница	Sokernice
Горенчово	Horinčovo	Солотвинские Копальне	Slatinské Doly
Довгое	Dovhé	Ставное	Stavné
Драгово	Drahovo	Страбичово	Strabičovo
Дубове	Dubové	Суль	Sol
Дубриниче	Dubriniče	Сельце	Selce
Дусино	Dusina	Тарновец	Tarnovec
Дедово	Dědovo	Теребля	Terebla
Есен	Eseň	Тересва	Teresva
Жденьово	Ždenovo	Терново над Тересвоу	Trnovo nad Teresvou
Загаття	Zahatí	Требушины	Trebušany
Залуж	Záluž	Тура Быстрый	Tuří Bystrý
Изки	Izky	Тура Ремета	Tuří Remety
Ильница	Jilnice	Тячево	Ťačovo
Иршава	Iršava	Ужгород	Užhorod
Калник	Kalník	Устьчорна	Ust'čorna
Квасы	Kvasy	Холмець	Chlumec u Užhorodu
Кевлядь	Kevjaď	Худльово	Chudlovo
Керецке	Kerecky	Хуст	Chust
Кобылецка Поляна	Kobylecká Poľana	Черноголова	Černohlava
Колодне	Kolodné	Черный Ардов	Černý Ardov
Косино	Kosino	Ченядьово	Činadovo
Кострина	Kostrina	Шаланки	Šalanky
Кушница	Kušnice	Шом	Šom
Лавещина	Lazeština	Ясена	Jasina

ARE YOUR 1974 DUES PAID ???

Our Secretary, Ed Lisy, is signaling an urgent S.O.S. to those of you who have forgotten to pay your 1974 dues which are now well past due. Membership dues should be sent to our TREASURER whose NEW address is: Dr. Thomas Meeks, 101 Clark Street, Apt. 16C, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201. Do not delay—Regular Memberships are \$5—Youth Memberships \$3—Patron Memberships \$15.

If you aren't paid up send in your dues now to be sure of remaining on the membership roster (which is published each Septembre) and to keep receiving the Specialist.

THIS YEAR, MAKE IT A PATRON MEMBERSHIP!

THIRD MAIL SALE

DR. LADISLAV V. FISCHMEISTER
V. A. Hospital, Augusta, Ga. 30904

Sale ends May 15th

All stamps mint, unless otherwise stated.

The prices below represent MINIMUM Bids. (AUSRUFPREIS)

1.	Hradcany, 5h, 25, M24 var., thin, thick paper, F -----	\$2.00
2.	5h, 11 3/4, 42 var., M24 B, 71. st. point beh. 5, VF -----	5.00
3.	5h, gutter, 2a, M2KZ, LUXUS -----	10.00
4.	5h, PAIR gutter, 2a, M2KZ, PLATE II, R, VF -----	20.00
5.	10h, 11 3/4, 43b, M25B, F -----	4.00
6.	10h, Tête-bêche gutter, 3a, M3KZ, LUXUS -----	20.00
7.	20h, imp. 45a, M27, LUXUS -----	30.00
8.	same, olive color essay, LUXUS -----	5.00
9.	same, violet color essay, LUXUS -----	5.00
10.	25h, ultramarine, 5a, M5 I, VF -----	5.00
11.	30h, imp., 47a, M24a, LUXUS -----	35.00
12.	75h, black green color essay, 33 var, M 31 var., LUXUS -----	5.00
13.	300h, dark green color essay, 38 v., M22 v., LUXUS -----	5.00
14.	P.C. 1919, B1-17, Type I, II, 30 stamps, VF -----	2.50
15.	1K black overprint, Type I, B 17, M 50b, VF -----	18.00
16.	20h, light green, Type I, VF, signed -----	17.00
17.	same, Type II, VF, signed -----	17.00
18.	2K, light bl., small form, B 18, M55, Type I, II, VF -----	2.00
19.	3K, carmine rose, Type I, VF, signed B 19, M56 -----	15.00
20.	same Type II, VF, signed -----	15.00
21.	4K, dark gr., Type II, VF, signed (Sc. 25.00) B20A, M53 -----	12.00
22.	10K, light violet, Type I, B 21, M58, VF, signed -----	75.00
23.	10K, dark v., Type II, B21 A, M 54, VF, signed (Sc. 175.00) ----	100.00
24.	Air 1.50/4, B37, M 71, VF, signed (Sc. \$100) -----	40.00
25.	Air 4K, gray, B38, B73, Type I, VF, signed (Sc. 400.00) -----	160.00
26.	5h, triangle, Type III, B 33, M 68, VF signed (Sc. 400.00) -----	235.00
27.	4h, B 41, M75, VF, Type III -----	5.00
28.	6h, B 42, M76, VF, Type I -----	3.00
29.	14H, B 43, M77, VF, Type I -----	13.00
30.	25H, B44, M78, VF, Type I -----	12.00
31.	30H, B45, M79, VF, Type I, signed (Sc. 175.00) -----	80.00
32.	50H, B46, M80, VF, Type II, signed (Sc. 340.00) -----	260.00
33.	5K, B 56, M 90, Type I, VF -----	12.00
34.	same, Type II, VF -----	12.00
35.	PC 1919 10K, B 57, M91, Type II, VF, signed (Sc. 175.00) -----	75.00
36.	1H, B 58, M92, VF (Sc. 15.00) -----	8.00
37.	15H, B59, M93, VF, Type II, signed (Sc. 65.00) -----	28.00
38.	10H, B 60, M94, Type I, signed, VF (Sc. 65.00) -----	24.00
39.	same, Type II -----	24.00
40.	20H, B 61, M95, VF, signed, Type II (Sc. 65.00) -----	24.00

41. 2fil, all four types, rare comb., VF -----	8.00
42. 3K, B 88, M135, Type II, VF -----	11.00
43. 5K, B 89, M136, Type II, F, signed (Sc. 60.00) -----	20.00
44. same, Type III, VF, signed -----	30.00
45. 10 K, B 90, M137, VF, Type I, signed -----	250.00
46. 10fil, Magyar P., Type IV, VF, B 96, M143 -----	3.00
47. 15f, White num., Type IV, B 72, M119, VF, signed (Sc. 85.00) ----	28.00
48. 50f, B 95, M142, Type III, VF (Sc.20.00) -----	9.00
48a. same, inverted overprint, VF -----	17.00
49. 1fil., B 104, M145v., WZ y (crown), Ty. I, (Sc 200.00) signed, VF	120.00
50. 50fil, B 107, M149 var., WZ y (crown), ty. I (Sc 100.00) signed -	50.00
51. 1fil, red n. B 115, M 150, VF, signed, Type III (Sc 100.00) VF ----	40.00
52. 1920 Masaryk, 63 var., M 160, used, 81 st. rose in hair, F -----	3.00
53. 40h, Type I, 71, M 173 I, VF -----	4.50
54. 20h gutter, 84a, M 167K, VF -----	11.00
55. same, large gutter, 84d, M 167KZ, VF -----	19.00
56. 50h, gutter, 87a, M 175K, VF -----	17.00
57. Masaryk, Kongress 1925, complete positions, B 137-9, M209-11, (Sc. 255.00) VF -----	150.00
58. Slet, complete WZ positions, B140-3, M212-15, VF (Sc 250.00) --	140.00
59. 1Kc, WZ 4, 101A, M 224x, VF (Sc. 100.00) -----	50.00
60. same, used WZ 1, 2, VF -----	4.00
61. 2 Kc, WZ 2, 101B, M 225x, VF (Sc. 130.00) -----	60.00
62. 3 Kc, used WZ 1, F -----	6.00
63. 1Kc, Type II, raminko, WZ 8, VF, 102, M 228 (Sc. 70.00) -----	25.00
64. 3Kc, Type III, 108, M233, all four WZ, scarce VF (Sc. 28.00) ----	14.00
65. Sokol 200h, B 142, M 214, 1926 on the top, RR, VF -----	30.00
66. Sokol 100h, B141, M 213, var. Thick paper, WZ 7 -----	4.50
67. 1926, Tatra, 114-8, M 253-6, ALL WZ, rare combin., VF -----	50.00
68. 1934, KDM sheets, 200-1a, M330-1x, VF (Sc. 385.00) -----	175.00
69. 1945, LARGE GUTTER CROSS, 307-9, M108-10, VF, RR (16 stps.)	120.00
70. Partyzan sheet, 292a, Block 7, VF -----	8.00
71. 1962, Exp. sheet of 4, R, VF, 1080, M 1314 -----	18.00
72. AIR MAIL, 24/500, 13¼:13½, OPEN SPIRAL, T I, C5a, M 193C, VF	55.00
73. 1Kc, 12¼, C11a, M304B, VF -----	8.00
74. 2Kc, 13¼:12¼, C12b, M305D, VF -----	4.00
75. 4Kc, 12¼, C14a, M 305 B, VF -----	2.50
76. 20Kc, 12¼, C17a, 310B, VF -----	2.00
77. Porto, 1922, 100/80, VIOLET overp., J28, M 18b, VF, signed -----	10.00
78. 10h Exp. WHITE PAPER, VF, E 3a, M 195 y -----	30.00
79. Bohemia and Moravia, complete country, VF -----	13.50
80. Terezienstadt KZ, Presentation sheet in black, VF -----	55.00

Please bid early. Lots are guaranteed genuine and as described provided returns are made within 7 days (Europe 10 days.) Postage and insurance extra. KEIN AUFGELD. Der US \$ kostet jetzt nur 2,40 DM. M-Michel Katalog.

End of Sale

DR. FISCHMEISTER

Member APS, Society for Czechoslovak Philately
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei und Oberschlesien

Stumped On Stamps? ? ?

By Richard Gray, 3466 Mildred Drive, Falls Church, Virginia 22042

I would like to report first of all a very surprising, complete and welcome communication concerning the mystery of the sheets, reported in my January 1974 article. The information arrived from Prague, Mr. J. P. Krouman, who writes: ". . . I hasten to give you an explanation, for I am the 'spiritual father' of those items . . ." I will report to you fully on the matter in the next two issues of the Specialist, and would like to include photos which Mr. Krouman promised to provide. It is not often that I am able to secure the facts directly from the source, therefore I would like to use this opportunity to have the facts "from the horse's mouth" reported thoroughly. I have to admit that I was happy to know that the explanation I gave was correct and fairly accurate.

To clean my desk of some recent and not so recent questions, I picked a few easy ones. To Mr. O. C. Y., of the State of Washington, who would like to see the dates of issue published in the Specialist: It would be possible, but it is not necessary. Just switch from the Scott catalogue to Czech written Pofis or German written Michel catalogue. The dates of issue, in Pofis also the dates of last day use, are listed, if known. The language problem is not too bad. Abbreviation of the 12 months names are listed in Michel, the Society will gladly help you with the Czech translation and most of the time the date is written in numerals. In that case you need to remember that in Europe the sequence in date is: day, month, year. The month numeral is sometimes written in Roman numeral. There is no rule on this though. The advantages of using Pofis or Michel compared to Scott catalogue are many and will cancel the disadvantages of language unfamiliarity, prices listed in Crowns or Marks and different numbering. Listing of stamps with the labels, varieties and other specialties, especially in Pofis, makes use of it by the serious collector of the Czechoslovakian stamps mandatory!

To Mrs. K. S., of Minnesota, who sends a list of English, German and Czech philatelic terms and would like to know the accepted use of same: I will give you the equivalents in the order Czech—German—English and explanation, where needed. Kupon—Leerfeld—label, is a BLANK label attached to a stamp, on left, right, top or bottom; usually the label itself is from the border of the sheet and then should have a narrower margin present too. Kupon (potištěný)—Zierfeld—label (printed) is a label with printed design; previous remarks about blank labels apply for printed labels too. Meziarší—Zwischensteg—gutter is the term applied to the piece of paper between two stamps, when it is wider than normal spacing of stamps, sometimes as wide as two stamp fields; usually obtained from the middle of the uncut (accidentally or on purpose) two sheets printed on continuous roll of paper. Okraj—Bogenrand—margin is the piece of paper on all four sides of the stamp sheet; in some cases it has a plate number, plain or fancy lines or name of the engraver printed on it. Okraj (známky)—Markenrand—margin (stamp) is the blank space between the stamp design border and the stamp edge (cut, rouletted or perforated). For the rest of the terms: coupon—used instead the proper term label; same for tab. Border—similar use as margin. Nápis—Inscript—inscript is self-evident. Označení means marking. Rám or rámeček is a frame. Ústřížek (more often výstřížek) is cut-out or cut square. Cedula, žlab and stoka are incorrect (philatelically) translations, in order, of label, gutter and gutter. On questions concerning the desirability and position of the labels for the stamps of Czechoslovakia, please refer to my column "Stumped On Stamps???" in the April 1973 issue of the Specialist, p. 62ff.



The 5 Heller green spec. delivery stamp, overprinted Pošta Československá 1919 (Fig. 1) was sent to me by one of our readers. It was included in a selection of stamps obtained from a dealer. The asking price was \$5 because of the fact that it is a "rare" reversed overprint. The regular stamp retails for about 5-10 Cents, reversed overprint for \$5-10. After examination, I found the overprint to be, in my opinion, NOT genuine. I am bringing this to the attention of our readers for a very good reason. Do not underestimate the people who falsify the overprints, especially P.Č. 1919! If they make a fairly decent (it is never perfect!) forgery of some expensive stamp, in our case the overprint used for overprinting such expensive pieces as 3, 5 and 10K Hungarian Parliament (overprint type C), you can rest assured, that they will use it also for the cheap (and easily obtainable) stamps having same overprint type. Therefore, you can find many stamps of the Parliament set lower values and the Merkur head special delivery cheap items with a forged overprint. Because these people are very greedy, they try to produce the more expensive "rarities," reversed, shifted, offset, etc. overprints, which they can sell for a higher price. So be careful, when buying such items, check them thoroughly or stipulate that the stamps can be returned for full refund if found not genuine. You have now the service of our experts at your disposal, hence if in doubt, use it! This particular forgery is not listed among the others in "Padělky." It is not too difficult for an expert to recognize it as such quite easily, because the forgery has several bad mistakes, recognizable immedi-

ately. For your help in comparing it with the genuine overprint, Fig. 2 shows the C type I genuine overprint as published in "Padělky." It has several points of importance labeled. You can test yourself, how good an expert you are and how easy or hard it is to sell you a forgery. I am offering an incentive for your troubles; any member who will send to me a letter with at least two points, why it is a fake, will receive a very nice souvenir sheet with folder. For a more detailed study, I will reward two or three different souvenir sheets! Here is your chance to test yourself and break my souvenir sheet holdings.

While I am on the subject of forgeries, I would like to ask my readers for help. Many of you are writing me letters with many questions. All the questions, directed to our editor Mr. Hanry Hahn, ultimately find their way to my desk, as far as they contain questions on stamps. Many times your questions are: "What is it?" when it should be: "Is it genuine?". In that case it should be suitably directed to our expertization committee. Only in the unusual and interesting cases, suitable for publication, I will do the examination of the item all the way for completeness. For that purpose I maintain a file of forgeries, which help considerably in identifying some false fast and eliminate the long time consuming search and examination. If you have falsas in your possession I would like to have them for my file. I am ready to reimburse you for the postage and in case you do not want to part with them, I will photograph them, which is not as good as the original but better than nothing. You will help in good work, get the forgeries out of circulation and perhaps save yourself some money in the future. If you like to mark your falsas as such, please do it on the back side of the stamps with India ink: FALSUM. I will do it anyway.

The deadline for the contest is April 28, 1974. Till then, good luck.
Write to: Richard Gray, 3466 Mildred Drive, Falls Church, Va. 22042.

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Než se ty naše články trochu zaběhnou, myslím že bude nejlépe, abychom si pohovořili o všem možném. Co slina na jazyk přinese, pro každého něco, jak tomu trampové z Brdských lesů poeticky říkali potlach. A věřte mně, bylo to krásné, prodebatovalo se vše od obsazení Sárska až po vydání nových známek příští týden. Vždyt ty trempíři byli také lidé a kde jsou lidé pohromadě, tam také najdete sběratele známek - zkrátka známkaře. To byla rubeč doba krásná a aršíky "Kde Domov Můj" se mohl koupiti skoro každý, když si odpustil několik malých gulášků a Plzní v Černém Pivovaru na Karláku. Slet a Kongres člověk mohl dostat podle průsvitek ve velké miniatuře a 1919 Pošta Československá přetisky, mimo několika vyšších hodnot, se prodávaly jak se říká za facku. Dokud se od Vás nedovíme, co byste četli nejraději, tak budeme po té louce filatelické poletovat jako čmeláci s jedné krásné kytičky na ještě voňavější a budeme se těšiti se všemi.

Zde se nám hned naskýtá příležitost ty mladší a méně zkušené seznámiti s oborem velmi specializovaným a drahým. Jak na čas, tak na peníze. Abych Vás zbytečně nenapínal, mluvím o sbírání "miniatur." V letech třicátých tento obor byl ještě v plném květu, až ho Němci skoro vymítli v roce 1940, když začali vydávati velké hodnoty s kupony na všech možných i nemožných stranách archu, s hvězdičkami i bez, ale i ty měly háček, protože některé nebyly hvězdičky, ale malé křížky s paprsky. Byl to hotový ráj pro nimry, obchodníky, šmelináře a Protektorátní "státní" kasu. Od té doby se sbírání miniatur už pěstuje jen potajmu, přívrženci tohoto zavrženého kultu se plíží zatmělými uličkami města a zdraví své souvěrce čtyřmi prsty, znamení to pro rohový čtyřblok.

Sbírání miniatur vážní historikové naší filatelie přičítají hladu sběratelů nových československých známek v době tak zvané Hradčanské. V roce 1918-20 bylo totiž všeho všudy asi třicet známek, když nepočítáme PČ 1919 přetisky, které byly v té době tak neoblíbené, hlavně pro tu 50ti procentní přírůžku, že zůstaly v prodeji u poštovní přepážky až do roku 1928. Sběratel si koupil za stovku známky a měl ČSR kompletní. Každý se unaví dříve či později prohlížením 30ti známek. Začaly se hledat barvy. Jen se podívejte do katalogu obchodníka p. Ecksteina. Jistě jste nevěděli, že tolik barevných odstínů existuje. A ty ceny! Samozřejmě, že obchodníci tento vývoj podporovali, bylo to dobré pro jejich kapsy. Podnikavější se začali ohlížeti po něčem novém a výnosném a tak asi, podle nejnovějších vědeckých bádání zřelo poprvé světlo světa velmi zhýčkané, rozmazlené a velice nákladné děcko-sbírání miniatur. Menšina badatelů prohlašuje, že tento koníček se vyvinul ze sbírání deskových čísel, což je možné, ale nepodložené pádnými vědeckými důkazy a mimo to sami přiznávají, že sbírání deskových čísel se zrodilo pro tytéž důvody, které byly prokázány pro sbírání miniatur. Musí se též vzít v úvahu, že v každé společnosti se najdou závistiví jedinci, kteří budou chtít rozvrátiti vedoucí kliku, aby se sami mohli dostat ke žlabu. Všichni se však shodují jednomyslně na tom, že poslední fáze tohoto vývoje, někdy v době těsné Předholubicové, byla vsugerována naivním sběratelům a ziskuchtivým obchodníkům lidmi, kteří v době Hradčanské tak říkajíc zmeškali autobus. To bylo sbírání deskových čísel a miniatur ne jednotlivě, ale ve čtyřblocích! Toto byla po pravdě zlatá doba miniatur a Státní pokladny, obchodníky nepočítaje, protože ti si vydělají za každých okolností. Renesance miniatur byla bezesporu v době Kuponové, 1936-39.

Zde jsem Vám tedy odhalil taje vzniku sbírání miniatur. Pro ty nezasvěcené by bylo možná dobré osvětliti, co to vlastně miniatura je. Není to komplikované, sbírají se všechny čtyři rohy ze známkového archu, jak je prodáván u poštovní přepážky. Toto je velmi důležité a pro náruživého minia-

turáře zákonem, že tyto čtyři rohy musí být ze stejného archu! Malá miniatúra je složená z jedné známky každého rohu. Velká miniatúra má pro každý roh čtyřblok. Když Čs. poštovní správa začala kaliti filatelistické vody známkami s kupony, těžký život nastal pro miniaturáře, kteří často byli rozvedení, protože nechali hladověti manželku i děti, aby pak takto z kůže rodiny doslova vydřené peníze třesoucíma rukama zaměnili za arch známek s kupony u podplaceného poštovního úředníka na nějaké obskurní poště. Po pečlivém odtržení všech čtyř rohů, tak zvané obřízce, chudákovy zbyly z celého archu ty známky ze středu, kterým se řívalo střeva. Tato střeva byla podávána až 50% pod nominál a takto získané peníze se teprve daly do rodinného rozpočtu, ovšem jenom v případě, že chytrá Poštovní Správa neoznámila mezitím nové vydání na příští týden! Známé jsou případy, že silní jedinci z řad miniaturářů odmítli se podrobiti chamtivosti obchodníků a majitelů větších kanceláří, kteří byli hlavními odběrateli střev. Podle hlášení věrohodných svědků, až do roku 1939 bylo možno pozorovati shrbené postavy s plnou náručí střev házeti tyto do Vltavy pod Karlovým mostem při plamenech pochodní a za zpěvu "Bývalí Čechové . . ." Tyto zprávy nejsou ovšem doloženy a po okupaci úplně zanikly, protože v té době, tak zvané Kupuji-vše-i-kosti, se dala prodati komukoliv i psi známka. Z toho vidíte, milí čtenáři, že sbírání miniatúr není žádný med. Jenom nezasevěnec se dívá na tyto filatelistické velikány jako na mírně řečeno podivíny a to je co říci, když se uvází, že oni sami, "normální" sběratelé, jsou přehlíženi lidmi, kteří neznají rozdíl mezi korunovou známkou a kolčem, kdyby tak nebyl státem označen a zoubkování pro ně znamená kousání do čokolády, a mnohdy za jejich zády nazývají tyto sběratele známek blázny.

Když se náhodou rozhodnete ten dopis za tu cenu, kterou jsem nabídl v minulém čísle, poslati na moji adresu, jste-li jedním z nás, otiskněte, prosím, čtyři prsty Vaší pravé ruky. Tyto otisky pak budou předány příslušným orgánům na přezkoumání. Jste-li pravý miniaturář, prsty musí vykazovat půl centimetru silné mozoly od těžké práce a odhalit roztřesenou ruku člověka se zničenými nervy zřehodného sběratele miniatúr. Zdráv bud bratře v utrpení!

Richard Gray
3466 Mildred Dr., Falls Church, Va. 22042

follows:

Tentative Program

Exhibits open:

Friday 10 am—10 pm — Saturday 10 am—10 pm — Sunday 10 am—6 pm,
Saturday, May 25th:

12 noon — Society luncheon, awards, guest speaker
2:00 pm — Czechoslovak Auction, Executive Suite, Room 1818
3:30 pm — SOCIETY Biannual Business Meeting, Executive Suite, Rm. 1818
6:30 pm — Cocktails, hosted by Dr. J. J. Matejka (place to be announced)
7:30 pm — COMPEX Banquet—price \$10 per person.

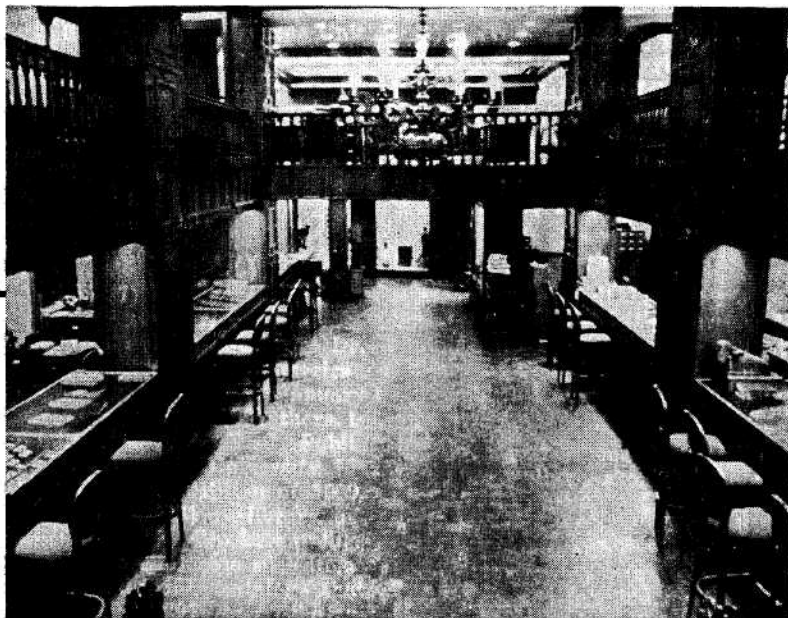
The Convention Co-Chairmen and President of the SOCIETY have made the following appointments subject to acceptance by appointees:

Judges: Joseph Vondrak, George Blizil, Henry Hahn

Alternate judges: Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, Dr. L. V. Fischmeister

Court of Honor Exhibitors: Dr. L. V. Fischmeister, Henry Hahn, Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, Dr. J. J. Matejka, J. J. Verner (all former Grand Award winners). Other Grand Award winners are requested to contact the Exhibition Committee.

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