THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the

Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXVII

October 1975

No. 8, Whole No. 353

LAST CALL FOR NOJEX '75

By Mirko L. Vondra, President, SCP

Participating for the first time as a member of the North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, our Society is all set for the National Philatelic Show—NOJEX '75, to be held at the Coachman's inn, Cranford, N. J. on October 24, 25 and 26th. Final details for our activities during the show were planned at a combined meeting of the New York and New Jersey branches of the Society.

The plans for NOJEX include a bi-annual convention of the entire SOCIETY to which all members and friends wherever they may be are cordially invited. The program will commence on Saturday, October 25th at 1 p.m. with an illustrated talk by Dr. Otakar Kutvirt entitled "What's Exciting About Hradčany 25h Blue." This will be followed by a few words from a representative of A.P.R.L. explaining how its new library is faring and how one may avail oneself of its material. Following the program, the SOCIETY's business meeting will take place, at which progress reports will be submitted by the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and Librarian. The meeting will then adjourn which the Board of Directors, including its newly elected members, will meet to plan the Society's future activities and its program for 1976. The NOJEX banquet will take place that evening. All participating Societies will be represented. The banquet will culminate in presentation of NOJEX awards as well as those by participating specialist societies.

The Society will have its usual table in the exhibition hall with philatelic material for sale. Anyone wishing to donate books or other items of interest to be offered for sale for the benefit of our Society is requested to send such material promptly to Mirko L. Vondra, 143 Stanmore Place, Westfield, N. J. 07090.

SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY! VISIT NOJEX AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR SOCIETY'S BIANNUAL CONVENTION ON OCTOBER 25th!

From the Editor's Stock Book

We first of all wish to bid a HEARTY WELCOME to those of our readers attending NOJEX '75—as well as to those picking up the SPECIALIST for the first time at our SOCIETY table. We also hope that you will attend the SOCIETY'S business meeting on Saturday afternoon and be heard on ANY subject relating to the SOCIETY.

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Peter E. Mayeaux, Chairman of the SOCIETY'S new Midwest Branch has sent us a copy of their newsletter which reports vigorous growth and activity including a report on the LINPEX-TOPEX '75 meeting on June 29th where 12 persons attended the Branch Meeting. A slide program on Czecho Postal History was shown (courtesy of the SOCIETY and the author of the slide program, Wolfgang Fritzsche), and \$162.90 worth of stamps were purchased from the SOCIETY'S circuit. Another meeting was scheduled for Sept. 6th at the home of George Hosek, and in November the Branch plans to meet in conjunction with TRIPEX III in Omaha, Neb. Members in the Midwest who are interested in participating should contact P. E. Mayeaux, 3120 S. 25th St., Lincoln, Nebr. 68502.

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(signed) Harlan W. Miller, Managing Editor

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete (signed) Harlan W. Miller. Managing Editor

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A snap shot taken at the LINPEX-TOPEX meeting shows three of the organizers of the Midwest Branch.



Left to right: George Hosek, Edward Krejci, and Frank Martincik.

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Closing date Nov. 30, 1975

The usual auction terms apply. Catalog Nos. and prices, where listed, are from 1975 Scott catalog.

1.	1943	London Exhib. S/S, mint NH, XF
2.	1945	Partisan, set compl., mint NH, VF, S288-92 1.25
3.		Partisan S/S of 5, mint NH, VF, Type III, S292a 15.00+
4.		Same, Type VI, S292a 15.00+
5.		Kosice set compl., mint NH, VF, blk of four, each blk has
		all four types I-IV, S311-14 21.80+++
6.	1957	Zapotocky S/S, used, XF, Type II (Pofis 1975 120.— Kč) S831 —
7.	1967	H. Rousseau M/S of four, mint NH, XF, S1484 4.00++
8.		Paintings comp. M/S of four, mint NH, XF, S1507-11 13.80++
9.	1969	Paintings comp., mint NH, VF, S1658-62 3.25
10.	1972	Ice hockey Champ, comp., mint NH, XF, S1845-6 5.00+
11.	1938	Masaryk S/S, mint NH, VF, S B152 2.00
12.		Republik S/S, mint NH, VF, S B153 2.50
13.	1930	Air Mail compl., used, F-VF, 13% (C10 II. type, C11 narrow,
		C12 I. type, C13 I. type, C14 II. type blue, C15 light brown)
		and C16a ultram. S C101-7 12.00++
14.		Same, used, F-VF, 13% (C10 I. type narrow, C11 Wide, C12 I.
		type, C13 III. type, C14 I. type, C17a perf. 12) and C16a ultram.
		S C10-17a 13.20++
15.		Same, used, F-VF, 13 (C10 I. type narrow, C11 wide, C12 I.
		type, C13 I. type, 14 I. type) and C16a 12.00++
16.	1951	Air Mail, used, VF, M/S of 10, S C39 7.50+
17.	1939	
		NH, (LH in the margin), VF, S 24
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The Issues, Surcharges, Cancellations and Vignettes of the Sudetenland

(1880-1970)

By Roger Richet, SCP - Translated by Anne Vondra

Note: The original French edition of the book contains some 300 illustrations which sreatly enhance the enjoyment and understanding of this unillustrated, serialized translation. Scrious students of this topic are urged to purchase the original, paper bound French edition from the SOCIETY. Please see advertisement appearing elsewhere in this issue.

(Continued)

Postal stationery and postage-dues:

German postal stationery, which was overprinted as we have pointed out in regard to the Liberation issues, was in use during the time immediately following the retreat of German forces, but these were soon replaced by those of the Czechoslovak Republic, again the sovereign state. (See Chapter IV: Liberation issues)

Payment for postal money-orders in stamps went through the same difficulties as the postage itself.

As for postage-due during the first days of Liberation up to the issuance of the postage-due series of 1945 (Yvert T. 67-78), this was collected by the postman who delivered the mail. (Pieces of mail on which postage was due were stamped at the sending post office with the word "Doplatné".)

Postmarks:

At the time that the Allies freed the Sudetenland, which is to say after May 8, 1945, the only cancellations were in German. Czech authorities wished to erase every trace of the German occupation, even in the postmarks. Therefore, the German words were scratched out to do away with them, and, as a result, the postmarks became "mute" with only the date on them.

(Pictures)

In some post offices the cancellation stamp was completely destroyed, or else it had been removed by the Germans, and they had to cancel the mail brought to the post office with a simple rubber office stamp, while the date was put next to it with another, as the date of departure must always be shown on a piece of mail. Thus they repeated the same process employed by the Germans themselves in 1938, when they first took over the Sudetenland.

Any mail not carrying this date marked with a rubber stamp was an exception, the result of a mistake on the part of the postal workers.

In other towns, they brought out the old cancellations of the large 35 mm size in use prior to 1938 and very cleverly altered them to show the 1945 date and erased the German that was on them. This happened in Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad).

(Picture)

In still other cases they took the pre-1938 cancellations which had escaped destruction by the Germans and used them after blanking out the name in German on the lower part of the cancellation. This was done at Nieder Lindenwiese (Dolní Lipova, in Silesia).

Finally, in some places, in place of a regular type cancellation, they just

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stamped the circular or linear notice "Postovni urad" on the pieces of mail. But this was strictly a temporary measure while they waited for cancelling devices to be made to the order of the Czech government for each one of the Czech towns. These cancellations were rubber stamps of uniform appearance, the name of the town at the top, the 1945 date in the center and three stars usually at the bottom.

(Picture)

These postmarks were generally stamped on in violet, the color of the ink pads used by post offices; there are instances of the use of black ink, but only very rarely of red.

In the following year, 1946, not all the Czech post offices in the Sudétenland had yet been supplied with the definitive copper-engraved cancellations, so a new supply of rubber stamp cancellations was made up for the year 1946.

(Picture)

The date was still often stamped on separately.

(Picture)

While awaiting the arrival of the 1946 cancellations, some post offices erased the 1945 date in the center, which left the cancellation "mute" as far as date was concerned. It was then necessary for them to use the old German postmark on which the name of the town in German had been erased.

(Picture)

In some cases, while awaiting the new definitive cancellations, they made all sorts of temporary postmarks of great diversity and novelty. Some of these cancellations appeared in Bohemia and Moravia upon the liberation of the Protectorate by the Allies.

Here below are some of these cancellations used in the Sudetenland:

(Picture)

Thus it is that an astonishing variety of cancellations, from the very simple to the nearly extravagant appeared in the Sudetenland in this period of Liberation.

Later on, like the rest of the towns of Czechoslovakia, the Sudetenland became familiar with the definitive cancellations of 25 mm in diameter which continue in use to this day. In former times these cancellations had been bilingual, in Czech and German; now they are strictly in Czech. In effect, Czechoslovakia being now a sovereign state, there are no more minorities; each citizen is a Czech citizen.

(Picture)

Naturally there are still other countries' nationals in residence there, but they are considered foreigners, especially in the large cities. Even the 60,000 gypsies living in Slovakia are Czech citizens.

The Germans in the former Sudetenland are very few in number, for most of them fled before the Allied armies at the time of the Liberation. Those who still live there and wish to retain their German citizenship, do so as resident aliens, furnished with an identity card and subject to Czech laws concerning foreigners.

The provisional rubber stamp cancellations of 1945 and 1946 were used exclusively only in the Sudeten territories, where the German postmarks had been destroyed upon the approach of the Allied armies. We know of only one exception and that is the city of Ceské-Budejovice (Budweiss, in German)

in Southern Bohemia, part of the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate and famous for its 1918 overprints, which received in 1945 a rubber stamp cancellation like that of the Sudeten towns. Nevertheless, the bilingual copper engraved cancellation was available and was used with the German name Budweiss erased. This is one of those little philatelic mysteries which are hard to solve.

Registration labels:

During the wait for the production of registration labels by the Republic, whatever was left behind by the Germans was put to use.

Sometimes, this was white labels bearing only the capital letter R and a printed red frame, typical of the German postal system, which were completed by hand stamp or metal device. These were in use at Zwittau (Svitavy) and Wendrin (Vendryné).

(Pictures)

Sometimes German language labels for registering mail were used by overprinting the name of the town in Czech, as at Trzyniec (Trinec) and at Karlsbad (Karlovy Vary).

(Picture)

Sometimes, printed labels in one town were sent to a neighboring one to be overprinted, as in the above picture; Trinec, for instance, used the registration labels of Oderberg (Bohumin).

(Picture)

In still other instances registration labels imprinted with the names of towns in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia were sent to locations in the Sudetenland which had been left with none.

The labels were overprinted in the manner mentioned above with a rubber handstamp. This was the case in Mahrish-Kromau (Morasky-Krumlov) and Niederwiese (Dolní Lipona-Hluk), in Silesia.

(Picture)

These temporary labels soon gave place to the definitive labels, sometimes black in certain towns up to 1947 and then red in the form which we know today.

In some small villages like Svhluckenau (Sluknov) postal materials were slow to arrive, for, in this town on October 10, 1945, they were still using blank labels in which the name of the town was imprinted using the 1945 cancellation stamp which we described above.

Station cancellations:

The Sudeten railway cancellations went through the same developments during the Liberation of Czechoslovakia as regular postal cancellations.

In May, 1945, the period of the liberation, station cancellations, waiting to be replaced by cancellations in Czech only, were altered by the erasure of the German names, only the date in the middle remaining. In order to identify the departure town of the mail, they often added the name of the town by means of a metal or rubber stamp, often rectangular in shape.

(Pictures)

These makeshift postmarks, blank and temporary, soon gave way to the definitive postmarks in the Czech language, but they remained linear in shape divided into three sections and are still in use today, having returned to their exact pre-1938 format.

(Picture)

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Travelling rail cancellations:

These followed the same pattern of change as the station and regular postage cancellations.

Immediately after the Liberation of May, 1945, the same trains continued to operate in the Sudetenland with the same numerical designations. Therefore, it was possible to retain the old travelling rail post cancellations, but the first curved line giving the name of the line served in German was eliminated, as well as the second straight line with the word "BAHNPOST" (railway post) and the word "ZUG" (train). At the bottom of the cancellation was the small letter a, b, or c, which classified the train's service.

(Picture)

The cancellation in the above picture was that of train No. 8692, which was the main-line train of north-west Bohemia, the Prag-Reichenberg (Praha-Liberec) by way of Svijany and Jablonec.

Machine cancellations:

Cancelling machines exclusively in the German language during the Occupation of 1938-1945 were replaced by official cancelling machines using only Czech which was henceforth to be the only national language, spoken and written.

Chapter III

Occupation Overprints of the Sudetenland (October 1938)

While awaiting the arrival of German stamps (since the Sudeten territories were henceforth to be part of the "Great German Reich") several Sudeten towns went ahead and issued special overprints for the postage stamps which were in current use in Czechoslovakia.

These issues all expressed the great joy over the return of the German minorities to the Great Reich, as we shall see later.

This chapter on the overprints of the October, 1938, occupation is quite complicated and for those who are not familiar with the subject the occupation overprints and cancellations can be quite confusing in their similarities and relationships.

The overprint sometimes indicated the name of the city, sometimes the commemorative date of the German occupation, as in the case of Abertham (Abertamy) or Bürgstein (Sloup), but there was never a mention of "Post office" or some such term. In such an instance there was a postmark without any date in it.

Often, on the first day of the occupation, mail left the sending post office without any date on it and sometimes the date was added on the side through the use of a rubber or metal date stamp.

The occupation overprints were stamped on in a variety of ways: by typography, by metal hand stamp, or by rubber or wooden hand stamps. Overprints applied with a rubber hand stamp appear to have been the most numerous. The hand stamps were used with a variety of colors, the most common ones used being violet, red or black, but sometimes green, brown, lilac or rose-lilac.

The letters used in the overprint were also very varied as to size, height or thickness. Gothic lettering, once more in vogue under the Hitler regime, was the most popular, but sometimes the Latin letters were used also.

(To be continued)

- Kozlof, Fred, P. O. Box 321, Blenheim, Ont., Canada
- Krafka, Rudolph, 1461 N. Euclid Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45406
- 951 Krejci, Peter T., 8702 Ridge Road, Bethesda, Md. 20034
- Krejci, Otakar M., 8702 Ridge Road, Bethesda, Md. 20034 Krejci, Vera, 8702 Ridge Road, Bethesda, Md. 20034
- Kremar, Rudolph A., 77 Dreve Du Hateau, Residence Les Platanes, 1080 Bruxelles, Belgium
- 453 Kutvirt, Otakar, 161 Branford Rd., Rochester, N. Y. 14618
- Lacina, Glenn E., 508 Hibiscus, McAllen, Texas 78501 1020
- 1037 Lacko, Joseph M., 1031 N. Chestnut St., Union, N. J. 07083
- Larsen, Preben, Kildebakken 8, 7000 Fredericia, Denmark
- Lasch, Henry, 11915 Foxboro, Los Angeles, Calif. 90049
- 675 Lauffer, Heinz E., 169 Anderson Road, Bernardsville, N. J. 07924
- 621 Lehocky, John A., 736 Pear St., Vineland, N. J. 08360
- 380 Lichenheim, Dr. Max, Box 81, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110
- 212 Lichtman, Morris, 2350 Cabrillo St., San Francisco, Calif. 94121
- Lidman, David, 163B Heritage Village, Southbury, Conn. 06488
- Lindner, Carl H., Rt. 1 Box 207, Fremont, Mich. 49412
- 1019 Lineback, Harvey, P. O. Box 254, Leonardtown, Md. 20650
- Linhart, Edward C., 1820 S. Ridgeland Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402
- Lipa, Karel, 21430 Ridgedale, Oak Park, Mich. 48237
- Liska, Leopold J., 333 Briarcliff Ave., Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 12603
- Lisy, Edward, 87 Carmita Ave., Rutherford, N. J. 07070
- Luckey, Mary E., 212 Marcoe St., N. Fond Du Lac, Wisc. 54935
- 861 Lukes, Frank, 4415 Argentine Dr., North Jacksonville, Fla. 32217
- McInnes, Alexander, Broomhill, St. Barchans Road, Kilbarchan, Renfrewshire, Scotland
- 1095 McKeown, James F., 3312 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Falls Church, Va. 22044
- McMillan, Alec, 50 Sunnybrae Rd., Takapuna, Auckland 10, New Zealand
- 902 McNamara, Dr. H. C., Hurley, N. Y. 12443
- Mach, Joseph E., 4120 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44103 1094
- 188 Maresh, Ferdinand, 1915 Robinson Ave., Havertown, Pa. 19083
- 1007 Martin, Edward H., 2638 Lakeside Ave., Orange, Calif. 92667
- Martincik, Frank, 2451 So. 19, T, Omaha, Neb. 68108 1073
- Marusic, Paul, Sr., 1720 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill. 60616 469
- Marusic, Paul R., Jr., 1720 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill. 60616 501
- Matejka, Dr. James J., Jr., Suite 216, Hotel LaSalle, Chicago, Ill. 60602 333
- Matiaska, Charles A., 11217 Methyl Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44120 132
- 965 Matuska, John, 46 Bartonsville Ave., Toronto, 335 Ont., Canada
- Mawhorter, William H., 1721 Lansing St., Aurora, Colo. 80010 981
- 1011 Mayeda, On, 4-25-1 Higashi-Rinkan, Sagamihara, 228, Japan
- Mayeux, Peter E., 2310 South 33 St., Lincoln, Nebr. 68506 913
- Mayeux, Mrs. Sue, 2310 South 33 St., Lincoln, Nebr. 68506 1069
- Mead, Mrs. Bertha L., 211 Benewict Ave., Norwalk, Ohio 44857 Melamed, Philip H., 1304 Algonquin Rd., Apt. 2R, Schaumburg, Ill. 60172
- 906 804
- Meredith, James E., Jr., 700 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, D. C. 20037
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- Minarik, Alexander P., 4998 Demaisonneuve West, Apt. 820, Montreal, 1063 Canada H32 1N2
- Mitchell, Robert, 3833 So. Oak Pk., Berwyn, Ill. 60402 1055
- Morello, Victor S., 1811 Sylvan Lane, Midland, Mich. 48640
- 970 Mrzena, George, 21-49 41st St., Astoria, L. I., N. Y. 11105
- 950 Murray, G. Douglas, RR 1, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Is., Canada

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525
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      Stiber, John A., 11000 So. Kenneth Ave., Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453
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      Strnad, N. Thomas, 2265 Green Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44121
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      Stromquist, Tod, 5330 N. Kenmore Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60646
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      Stupell, Keith, 61 East 57th St., New York, N. Y. 10022
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      Thayer, Mrs. Nina Joan, 7 Pershing Ave., Radford, Va. 24141
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      Thivierge, Albert, Box 324, Woodside, N. Y. 11377
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      Trnovsky, William, P. O. Box 94, Fayetteville, Texas 78940
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      Van Handel, Ray, Jr., 2108 N. 19th St., Sheboygan, Wisc. 53081
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      Van Zanten, Gerald M., P. O. Box 49, Napier, New Zealand
      Vanik, Vaclav, 2613 So. Ridgeway, Chicago, Ill. 60610
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      Verba, Joseph, 519 Kramer Ave., Lombard, Ill. 60148
      Vonrak, Joseph, 49 Janice Lane, Addison, Ill. 60101
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      Votruba, Stanislav, 42 Elliot St., Morristown, N. J. 07960
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      Vratislav, Novak, P. O. Box 269, Praha 1, Czechoslovakia
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      Vrzalik, Leo F., Jr., 4315 Penn Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21236
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      Vydra, Ladislav H., P. O. Box 83, North Woodstock, Conn. 06257
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      Wenz, Charles E., 451 So. 52nd St., Lincoln, Nebr. 68510
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      Willett, Keith V., 309-3 St., Lewiston, Idaho 83501
      Woodbury, Mrs. Iris S., P. O. Box 22, Putnam, Conn. 06260
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      Worley, Robert, P. O. Box 261, Agoura, Calif. 91301
      Wyslotsly, Olech W., 55 Glenwood Ave., East Orange, N. J. 07017
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      Yanco, Oliver C., 1323 Commercial St., Bellingham, Wash.
      Yurosh, Milan, 32 Foote Ave., San Francisco, Calif. 94112
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      Zaviska, Frank J., 3640 W. 63rd St., Chicago, Ill. 60629
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      Zeman, Paul, 1549 Walker Ave., Union, N. J. 07083
     Zulueta, Alfonso G., Jr., P. O. Box 15433, San Diego, Calif. 92115
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SOCIETY members making news include Wolfgang Fritzsche who judged at BALPEX on Labor Day weekend. Wolfgang will undoubtedly be thinking of us as we gather at NOJEX—possibly from the saddle of a camel as he visits Egypt. Secretary of the Chicagoland Branch, Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr., has received the Chris Hunt Memorial Award, presented for outstanding contributions to philately, and your Editor will be judging at the Washington International Lion Stamp Show, Oct. 10-12 at the Sheraton Park Hotel in Washington, D. C.

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14. 100 waste prints (makulatura)	20.00
15. 10 covers all with Hradčany stamps	10.00
16. Ab. 100 stamps with Hungarian cancels	12.00
17. Some mint and used blocks, low values	
18. About 150 covers, all periods	10.00
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20. 500 special event cancels on paper, very nice, but duplication	15.00
21. Box with duplicate mint and used	10.00
22. Another Czecho collection well worth	20.00
23. Posta 1919 sheet of 15h Karel	12.00
24. sheet of 20h Karel	12.00
25. different 50 all *	13.00
26. Porte set up to 10K	45.00
27. Parliament set to 5 K	25.0
28. Hungarian set of postage dues (green and red) compl. 1fil to 30	f 35.00
29. Masaryk 1920 issue *	2.00
30. 1923 set	3.00
31. Same used	3.00
32. 1925 set * to 5 K	4.00
33. Same on cover RED cancel	2.00
34. Vertical watermark, compl. set USED	£_ 8.00
35. Olympic Congress *	25.00
36. Same used	
37. Slet, vf set *	
38. Same used	_ 20.00
39. 10 cards all with Masaryk	_ 10.00
40. S.O. on album pages, about 45 stamps, some used	_ 18.00
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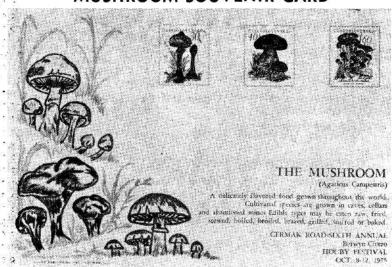
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40.	— 60h, block of 4, PERF 13%, VF4.00
41.	— TETE-BECHE 50h, small, block of 4, & a, M175 K, VF 85.00
42.	- ESSAY 100h on BLUE paper, PERF, Ecarce, VF 4.50
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44.	— 200h, Type II, perf 13 & 13%:13%, 3II, a, M 203 II, A, B, VF _ 8.00
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End of sale. Thank you.

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