

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the  Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.  
Silver Award — INTERPHIL '76

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXIX

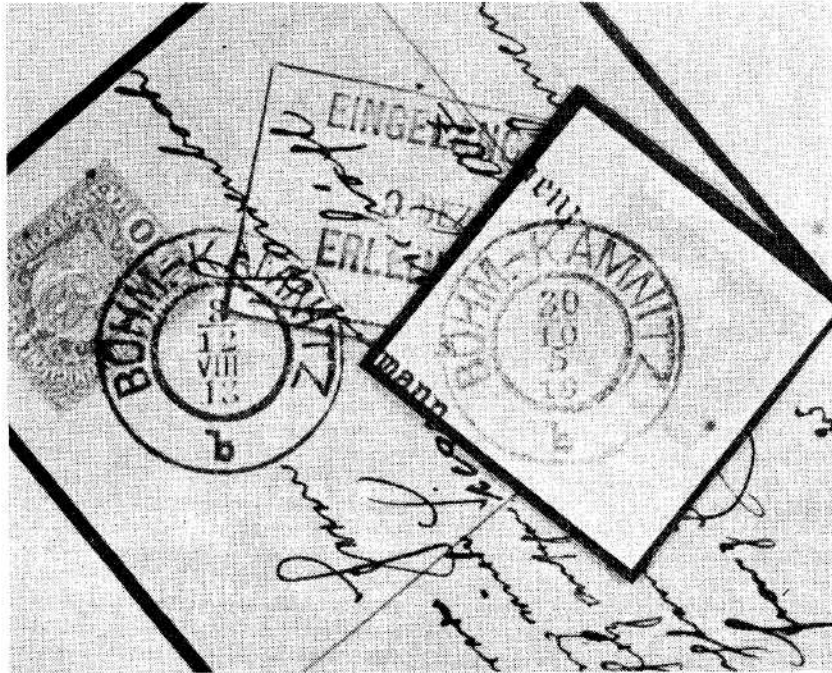
January 1977

No. 1, Whole No. 366

## A Philatelic View of Czechoslovakia Boundaries and Their Changes

By Ing. Vladimír Feldmann  
(translated and adapted by L. H. Vydra)

There are two basic reasons why philatelists are always interested in boundaries of any state or country. First of all they delineate a region where



Picture 1

Austrian postcard with a 10 haler printed stamp and Austrian postmark Česká Kamenica (Bohm. Kamnitz) dated 8.12.1918 from the period and region of separatist movement Deutschboehmen. Same postmark used already as a Czechoslovak provisional postmark 1918 with the Hradcany stamp dated 30.10.1919.

the stamps of a particular state circulate according to specific local postal rules. Second, the respective changes of these boundaries may very often bring out some rare and very interesting philatelic knowledge which can contribute not only to the local postal history, but also to the general history of that particular state.

This article will describe in some detail the development and changes of Czechoslovakia's boundaries and their impact on philately. It is entirely possible that some readers, after reading this article, may discover new and interesting philatelic aspects which will further clarify boundary changes and Czechoslovakia's political history. The purpose of this article is to create further interest among stamp collectors in this field.

Ing. Feldmann's article is divided into several chapters. The first chapter is devoted to the boundaries separating Czechoslovakia from Germany and Austria. The second chapter deals with the Czechoslovak and Polish borders. Chapter three discusses the Czechoslovak and Hungarian borders, while the final chapter deals with Czechoslovakia's boundaries with other states, i.e. West Ukraine, Romania and the Soviet Union.

#### **Czechoslovakia's Boundaries with Austria and Germany**

The Czechoslovak Republic was founded on October 28, 1918. Almost immediately some of the citizens of Czechoslovakia, who were of German descent and a minority, living at that time along the frontier regions of the historic Czech lands (in the areas commonly known as Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia) began to claim for themselves the right of self determination. On October 29, 1918, a separate local regime was established in the northern Bohemian town of Liberec (Richenberg) which declared this Bohemian region a part of the newly created German Austria (Deutschösterreich). The creators of this new German state intended for it to become an integral part of the German Reich. However, the Versailles and Trianon Peace Treaties forbade this union, picture No. 1. Similarly, on October 30, 1918, another separate local regime was declared in Opava (Troppau) for the Opava region as well as for the upper parts of northern Moravia, which was also inhabited

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**Published monthly except July and August — \$7.50 per year**

**Second Class Postage Paid at Lawrence, Kansas 66044**

**Office of Publication, 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kansas 66044**

**Mrs. Joseph F. Sterba, Jr., Editor, 6624 Windsor Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402**

**Managing Editor Harlan W. Miller**

**Melvin F. Klozar, Manager of Collection of Advertising**

**913 Spring Road, Elmhurst, Ill. 62106**

**Dick Major, Sales Agent, For Sale Through the Specialist**

**P. O. Box 4074, Arlington, Va. 22204**

**President, H. Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor La., Fairfax, VA 22030**

**Vice Pres. and Circuit Mgr., W. Fritzsche, P. O. Box 8, Canandaigua, NY 14424**

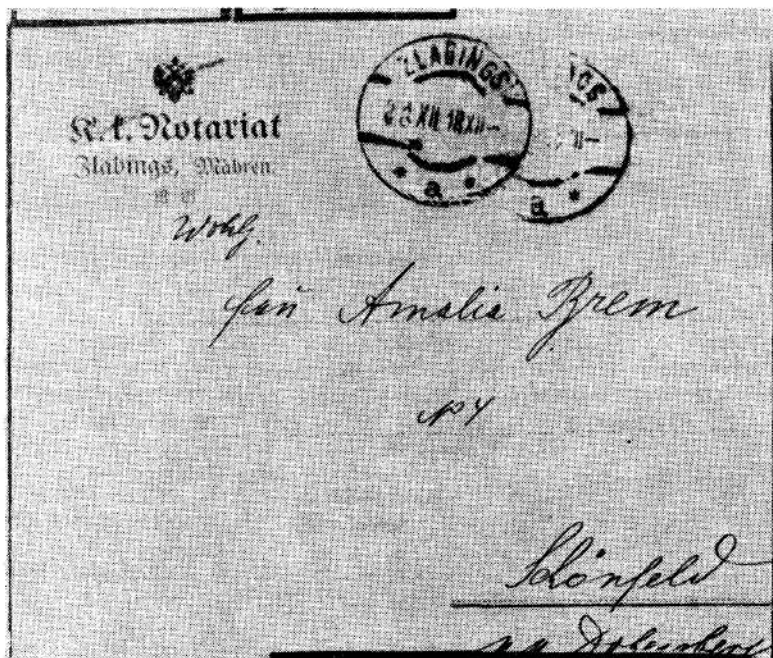
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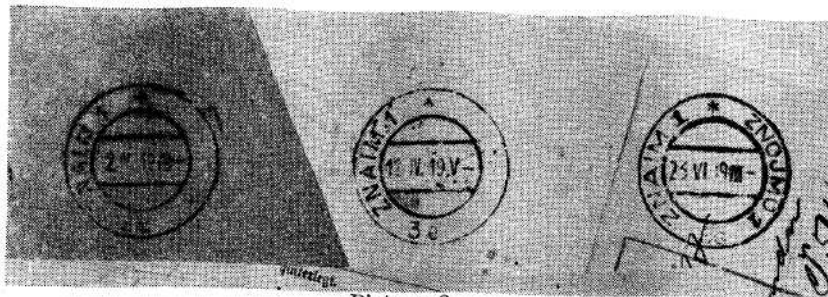
Picture 2

Letter by a notary public in Slavonice (Zlabings) Moravia, addressed to Schoenfeld in Lower Austria, dated 28.12.1918 after the liquidation of the local separatist German rule (Deutschsuedmaehren) as of November 18, 1918. Mixed franking: provisional Austrian stamp Karl 15 haler and Hradcany 5 haler stamp cancelled with a provisional Czech postmark of 1918.

by a local German minority of citizens. Two regions located in southern parts of Bohemia and Moravia, which had less numerous enclaves of a German minority population, claimed their intent to join with the Austrian state. Southern Bohemia was in the area of šumava (Boehmerwaldgau) with its center in the town of Český Krumlov (Krumau). Southern Moravia was called German South Moravia (Deutschsuedmaehren) and centered in the town of Znojmo (Znaim). Of these two, the former claimed a union with Upper Austria, and the latter with Lower Austria.

The victorious Allies did not recognize the claims of Bohemian-German Nationalists and the authorities of the newly established Czechoslovak Republic succeeded, during the months of November and December of 1918, to liquidate these political separatist units. In any case, as in picture No. 2, the philatelic impact was quite insignificant. In southern Moravia it was restricted to the removal of Czech names from local postmarks in the towns of Znojmo and Hrušovany (Znaim and Grussbach). Additional details on this development may be found in an article written by Mr. Felix Seebauer entitled "The 1918 Antistate Activities in Southern Moravia," which was published in *Filatelie* No. 3—1967—page 62.

Picture No. 3 illustrates that the separatist minority regime had established a central post office located in northern Bohemia, in Ústí nad Labem (Aussig) which started to develop anti-Czech activities. Some very interest-

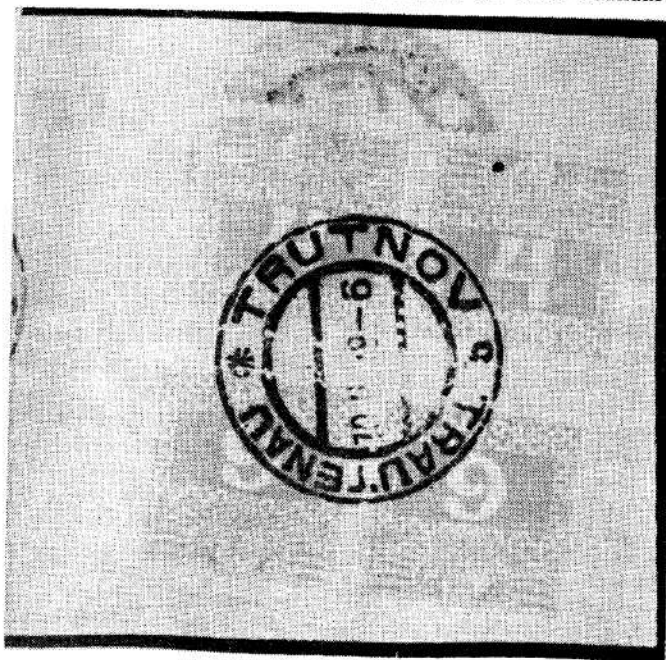


Picture 3

Czech postmarks (after the declaration of independence) from Moravian town of Znojmo 1 (Znaim 1) with additional identification markings 3d, 3e, dated 12.4.1919, after the liquidation of local separatist German rule (Deutschsued-Maehren). Postmarks on court summonses—the Czech name of the town is missing. The same postmark 3c, used on a postcard dated June 26, 1919, has the Czech name of the town inserted.

ing details describing this development were published in an article written by Mr. K. F. Pešák entitled "Documents from the post coup d'etat Era" and appeared in *Filatelie* No. 3—1975—page 84.

By the end of 1918, in Bohemia and Moravia, the new Czechoslovak-German boundaries were identical with the old Austro-German boundaries. Those adjacent to Austria also returned to the previous old state boundaries of the



Picture 4

1918 Czechoslovak postmark from town of Trunov 1 (Trautenau 1). This is a rarity as these postmarks were very rarely used on the Czech provisional postage due stamps of the so-called big numeral issues.

Czech lands known as Bohemia and Moravia or Upper and Lower Austria.

After the coup d'etat of 1918 so called "preliminary" provisional Czechoslovak stamps were legally valid in the Czechoslovak Republic. These were stamps of Austro-Hungarian origin, legally taken over by the Czechoslovak authorities and validated as of October 28, 1918. This situation was described in detail by Dr. Frant. Dvořák in his article published in *Filatelie*, No's 1, 8, 9—1972—pages 9, 232, 264 and *Filatelie* No. 5—1973—page 136. Subsequently numerous views resulted Dr. Dvořák's articles. A special stamp committee under the chairmanship of Mr. E. Herout, an outstanding Czechoslovak collector and jurist, studied and announced the final decision of the committee relative to the subject, which appeared in *Filatelie* No. 7—1973—page 200. These provisional stamps remained valid until February 28, 1919. In the Czech lands, the postal authorities legally took over all official postmarks of Austrian origin used by the Czech post offices as of October 28, 1918. The majority of these postmarks were "nationalized," that is the German names of the towns were removed and after January 1, 1919, these postmarks were replaced with the new Czechoslovak postmarks of type 1, with abbreviated marking Č.S.P.—ČeskoSlovenská Pošta, picture No. 4.

(to be continued)

## Editor's Gazette

By Jane Sterba, 6624 Windsor Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402

PRAGA-78

At a board meeting held in the summer of 1975 your Editor and Mr. Mirko Vondra, Society Past President and a member of our Society's board of directors, were appointed to organize a group flight for our Society's members, families and friends planning to attend the International Philatelic Exhibit to be held in Prague in 1978. The magic date was announced in *Filatelie* as

5th and final Sale of Frank Kovarik's philatelic material will be held on Sunday, March 13, 1977 at Lincoln Federal Savings & Loan Assn., 6655 West Cermak Road, Berwyn, Illinois, 2:30 p.m.

Matched corner blocks of the Tab Issues will be featured, including a rare Arras issue, Child Charity 1936 and 1937, together with many other interesting items.

For a catalog of lots write to:

**Joseph Cerveny**

523 South Brainard Avenue      La Grange, Illinois 60525

August 25-September 3, 1978. In our May 1976 Specialist a questionnaire appeared and many of our members did respond. We are reprinting this questionnaire so that members that have joined our society since that date, together with members that might have decided since then that they too want to join our group, can let their wishes be known to our organizing committee.

Many of our members have confirmed to me personally that they are planning on going with the Society to Praga-78 and many have written personal notes to this effect, but they have not filled in or returned the questionnaire. There are two ways you can mail in your answers. Clip out the questions below and provide your answers next to each one. If you do not wish to mutilate your copy of the Specialist, copy the questions in the order in which they appear or xerox them and encircle your answer. Mail your responses either to Mirko Vondra, 143 Stanmore Place, Westfield, N. J. 07090, or your Editor.

#### Questionnaire

1. As a maximum, how much would you be willing to spend on a round trip flight to Prague?      \$400.      \$450.      \$600.
2. How long should the visit be from date of departure to date of return?  
One week      Two weeks      Three weeks      22-45 days
3. If it is decided that the duration of the trip be different from what you selected, would you still go if the duration were not less than one week and not more than three weeks?      Yes      No
4. If you sign up for the trip, how many of your family or friends would accompany you?
5. Would you be interested in participating in a 12 day bus tour of Czechoslovakia under the auspices of Cedok, the Czechoslovak government travel bureau?      Yes      No  
The cost of bus transportation, meals, lodging and an English speaking guide is approximately \$340.00.
6. Would you prefer to stay with the group at a hotel in Prague under pre-arranged accommodations or would you prefer to make your own arrangements for lodging?
7. Do you have any suggestions to make to the committee? If so, please specify.

If you have studied or compared the above prices with those appearing in the May Specialist, you will note that they are slightly higher. This is to cover an anticipated increase in international air fares which are going into effect April 1, 1977.

Please send your answers as soon as possible and certainly by the end of the next month, at the very latest. Remember, your responses are not binding pledges, but merely samples of your opinion to help guide us on our course. Your prompt replies will be appreciated.

#### A REMINDER:

Every member is entitled to one free 15 word advertising each year. Word count does not include name and address. Send your advertising to Mr. Wm. Schoenig, 20 Charles Ct., East Patchogue, N. Y. 11772.

#### DUES 1976-1977

Have you remitted your annual dues to the Society in the envelope sent to you with the December Specialist or have you misplaced it? Regular and Associate Membership \$7.50—Patron Membership \$15.00—Junior Membership \$3.00. Please make your remittance payable to Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc. Mail to Henry Samek, Jr., Treasurer, 138 Burlington Avenue, Paterson, NJ 07502. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Happy New Year—1977.      J. S.

## 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 greatly enhance the enjoyment and understanding of this unillustrated, serialized translation. Serious students of this topic are urged to purchase the original, paper bound French edition from the SOCIETY. Please see advertisement appearing frequently in the SPECIALIST.

(Continued)

At this point it is well to point out the numerical importance of the German population in this region.

In 1870, according to Dr. Ficker's statistics, there were two million Germans in Bohemia, 530,000 in Moravia and 256,000 in Silesia.

In 1910, according to official Austrian figures, the numbers were 2,467,724, 719,435 and 325,523, respectively.

In 1921, according to the statistics of the official Czechoslovak government census, the number was 3,122,390 Germans altogether, most of them in the Sudeten territory, and making up 22.26% of the entire population of Czechoslovakia.

Finally, in 1930, according to the official figures of the Czechoslovak government, there were 3,318,445 Germans in Czechoslovakia, or 22.53% of the whole population.

### Vignettes (Seals) of the "Deutscher Volksrat Für Böhmen"

This non-political organization was founded at Treibnitz (near Lubowitz on the Elbe) in 1905. Its unofficial role representing the interests of the Germans of Bohemia was recognized by the Austro-Hungarian imperial officials.

After Czechoslovakia became independent the directors of the D. V. B. tried to continue representing the German minority before the Czech government, but very soon differences arose within the association, some wishing to cooperate with the Czech government, others asking for proportional ethnic representation, still others insisting upon reunion with Germany.

It is interesting to note that in the period from 1918 to 1921, Austria herself was asking for union with Germany (Deutsch-Osterreich) and that the Sudetens were always pro-German, never pro-Austrian.

1905—Ancient German warrior carrying a horn, 2 heller value on white paper:

- |               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| 1. green      | 5. brown  |
| 2. grey-black | 6. red    |
| 3. blue       | 7. violet |
| 4. yellow     | 8. sepia  |

These stamps can be found in five different shades of each of the base colors given above. This gives the specialist the opportunity to collect a series of forty different stamps.

In addition, there are five values on rose paper, five others on green paper, three on glazed white paper and two on thin oiled paper. Three stamps were issued on metallic paper (bronze, silver and gold) but these were rare and not meant for ordinary use.

Altogether, a specialized collection would contain 58 values.

(Pictures)

1913. Oak tree and workman, 2 heller value:

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9. blue, brown and yellow  | 12. brown and grey       |
| 10. blue and grey-green    | 13. blue, brown and grey |
| 11. brown, yellow and grey | 14. blue and brown       |

#### Seals of the "Deutscher Volksrat Für Mähren"

The "Deutscher Volksrat für Mähren" was a non-political organization of ethnic membership, founded in 1904, with its headquarters at Brünn (Brno). It was officially recognized by the Austro-Hungarian imperial authorities as an extra-parliamentary association.

1904. Head of an ancient German warrior:

- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. 2 h. black and red on white | 2. 5 h. black, red on yellow |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|

These seals exist imperforate. They could be found in a very small number in 1903, but they must be considered proofs and are hard to find today.

1907. Horseman bearing the black, red-gold coat of arms of the Holy Empire, 2 heller value:

(Pictures)

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 3. brown on greenish paper | 4. blue on bluish paper |
| 5. green on greenish paper |                         |

1912. There is a 2 h. dark grey-black on yellowish background, offering a view of Brünn (Brno), which does not seem to have been issued officially.

#### Seals of the "Bund der Deutschen in Böhmen"

This association of the Germans of Bohemia for defense against the Czechs was founded in 1894; its headquarters were in Prague and it counted 106,400 members scattered among 1,124 local groups. It issued a monthly bulletin as well as an annual almanac.

These are its different issues:

1904. Spirit and heraldic arms of the league; Black, yellow and red shield, spirit in black:

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. 2 h. blue (18x23) | 4. 10 h. green (24x30)  |
| 2. 2 h. blue (24x30) | 5. 50 h. yellow (24x30) |
| 3. 5 h. red (24x30)  | 6. 1 k. violet (24x30)  |

1908. Head of Woden, 2 heller: this last seal is extremely rare:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 7. blue, thin paper                                 | 8. brown, thin paper |
| 9. black, yellow, red, another type but same motif. |                      |

1908. Head of a knight in armor, 2 heller:

(Pictures)

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10. blue                  | 11. blue, black and bistre |
| 12. red, black and bistre |                            |

1909.

- |   |
|---|
| 13. 2 h. black, red, yellow and bistre: knight and escutcheon   |
| 14. 2 h. black, red, yellow, bistre and grey: knight on a hill. |
| 15. 10 h. black, yellow, red and grey: couple in costume, 1830. |
| 16. 10 h. yellow, grey, red and black: couple in costume, 1830. |

1909. Head of a knight in helmet, 2 heller:

(Pictures)

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 17. orange and black | 19. grey and black   |
| 18. yellow and black | 20. bistre and black |



1909. German foot soldier with flag, 2 heller:
- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 21. black and orange | 23. grey and black   |
| 22. yellow and black | 24. bistre and black |
1910. Knight with sword above the year 1894, 2 heller:
- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 25. orange and red   | 28. bistre and brown           |
| 26. rose and red     | 29. light blue and dark blue   |
| 27. violet and lilac | 30. light green and dark green |
1910. Various subjects:
31. 2 h. olive, black, red and gold. Heraldic arms (15x20)
  32. 2 h. same as above, (21x28)
  33. Oak tree and shield, green, black, red and gold (22x28)  
(Pictures)
  34. 2 h. black, rose, and gold. Blacksmith, 38x24.
1910. Commemoration of the Census. Crowd in front of a billboard. This type of seal was put out by various leagues in Austria-Hungary.
35. 2 h. multicolor
1910. Famous people, 2 heller:
36. black, red and yellow: Otto Jahn
  37. black, red and yellow: Bismarck  
(Pictures)
1910. Osterpende. (Easter donation)
38. 10 h. black, red on yellow; spade with red overprint "Osterpende 1911"

These stamps can be found on yellow paper, yellowish, salmon color, and bluish paper. This issue had only a brief life and we lack precise information about it. We would be especially grateful to anyone who can enlighten us about it.

1911. Mourning stamp, the angel Azraël.
39. 2 h. black, bistre, grey
1911. Issue of various subjects, 2 heller multicolor
40. child and coat of arms
  41. Maiden and tree
  42. angel and moneybox
  43. 2 h. black, brown-grey. Blacksmith
  44. 2 h. black, grey, blue. Sower

Later there was a No. 15 and a No. 44 (5 heller) of a more modern makeup.

1912. Coats of arms of the cities of Bohemia. Values in black and frame in a uniform grey and green, value 2 heller.
45. Prague—gold, red, blue (1894)
  46. Leitmeritz—gold, red and silver (1895)
  47. Brux—blue, silver, red and gold (1896)
  48. Aussig—red, gold and silver (897)
  49. Karlsbad—red, gold and silver (1898)
  50. Mies—(1898)
  51. Trautenau—green, blue, red and silver (1899)
  52. Bodenbach—gold, red, green and silver (1900)
  53. Dux—(1901)
  54. Teplitz—blue, yellow and red (1901)
  55. Schluckenau—silver, blue, green and gold (1902)
  56. Hohenelbe—green, red, gold and silver (1903)
  57. Reichenberg—silver, red, blue and gold (1904)
  58. Kaaden—silver, gold, red and blue (1905)
  59. Gablonz—blue, green, brown and yellow (1906)
  60. Prachatitz—red, gold and silver (1907)

- 61. Schönlinde—(1908)
- 62. Asch—blue, silver and red (1909)
- 63. Teschen—blue, silver and gold (1910)
- 64. Komotau—silver, blue, gold and red (1911)
- 65. Landskron—red, blue and gold (1912)

Other coats of arms of towns appeared in 1915, under numbers 84 and 87-89. The dates given on the right are shown on the stamps in the two lower cartouches of the frame. They mark the opening date of the office of the League of Germans in Bohemia in each of these towns.

See the list of towns in Chapter VIII for the Czech name of the towns in the section above.

1914. Dedication to the peaceful life of the family, two heller multicolor.  
(Pictures)

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 66. dog and child | 69. farm village     |
| 67. child welfare | 70. water mill       |
| 68. workman       | 71. peasant and cart |

(Pictures)

No. 68 exists in two different multicolor versions.

1914. Defense and Military Allegories, two heller, multicolor.

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 72. Viking funeral | 74. Knight and altar |
|--------------------|----------------------|

(Pictures)

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 73. Knight and shield | 75. Eagle on a rock |
| 76. Knight and eagle  |                     |

1914. Natural wonders, vertical in format, multicolor, 2 heller:

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 77. Alpinists | 79. Landscape |
| 78. Landscape | 80. Landscape |

The three series described above were printed in sheets of fifty, in groups of 6, 5 and 4 stamps respectively, so that many combinations are possible.

1914. War issues:

- 81. 2 h. eagle and flag—black, red, yellow on bistre.

1915. War issues:

- 82. 2 h. black, red, yellow-green—closed fist holding a viper

(Pictures)

1915. Memorial stamp:

- 83. 2 h. black, red and gold on salmon—Flag and fallen soldier

1915. Coats of arms of the towns. Values same as those of type 45, etc.

- 84. 2 h. grey, green, blue and silver, Coat of arms of Warnsdorf (1914)

1915. Emblem of the league. Type and colors of no. 32 of 1910. New value

- 85. 5 h. green, red

(Picture)

- 86. Circular seal with cogged border of black, in black, red, yellow

1915-1930. Coats of arms of the towns of Bohemia (as in 45-65):

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 87. Kaplitz, 2 h. (1915)   | 88. Braunau, 5 h. (1921) |
| 89. Trautenau, 5 h. (1930) |                          |

Czech independence in 1918 brought an end to this movement, the most important one of its kind in the former Austro-Hungarian province of Bohemia.

In further detail—it is interesting to note this movement's financial condition in 1914 just before the First World War, which goes far to explain its undertakings: In 1913 its 106,400 members paid 511,250 crowns in dues. Its reserve funds in the bank were 624,000 crowns and its annual publicity budget was 484,000 crowns, the equivalent of half a million francs.

(to be continued)

## From the President's Stock Book

Henry Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor Lane, Fairfax, VA 22030

The "My Favorite Cover" feature, appearing in the American Philatelist, Journal of the APS, only occasionally touches on our area of interest. The idea of this amusing feature is to describe the human interest surrounding the owner's favorite cover.

Thus, in the July 1976 issue, R. W. Gidley describes a WW I item under the title "A World War I Censor Cover"\*. The story is artfully and sensitively written, and includes at least one item of information that I was not aware of. The owner's fascination is essentially based on his association of the cover with the close of the "Victorian Europe" era. The cover is post marked and registered in Göding-Hodonín on August 10, 1915 and is addressed to a stamp dealer in Copenhagen. It is franked with two Franz Josef stamps (Scott 120 and 122) and bears military censor markings and seals from Brünn (Brno) and Altstadt-Dresden in Germany.

The owner of this fine cover dwells on the personal as well as military tragedies of Franz Josef, pointing out that of 7,800,000 troops mobilized at the start of WW I, 7,020,000 were included as total casualties by the war's end. The elegant writing of the return-addressee, who was probably an Austrian, or, in any event, German-speaking officer, stationed at the k. u k. Militär-stationskommando (Military Station Command) portrays . . . "the days of classical music, poetry readings, . . . grand houses and palaces with their sparkling chandeliers, elegant furniture and spacious ballrooms. It was the last days of the aristocratic horsedrawn coaches . . . where, at night, under the twinkling kerosene street lamps, could be heard the laughter and music of a formal grandiose party . . . The person who penned this letter may have been well aware of this flickering last twilight in the days of wine and roses. It had been, as one writer once wrote "that world of peace and tranquility which died in the mud of Flanders . . ."

That is where Mr. Gidley's story ends. On reading it, I reflected with some sadness on the perspective of history shared by much of the non-Czech world, and particularly collectors of such covers who certainly should not indulge themselves in such shallow sentimentality and superficial treatment of covers, which indeed have a great story to tell.

Let us begin with the post mark. There, in the town of Göding, some sixty-five years earlier, Thomas Masaryk was born. Far from sparkling chandeliers, spacious ballrooms and grandiose parties, this champion of liberty then, in 1915, toiled to bring emancipation of the citizens of Göding and all the Czechs and Slovaks from the yoke of Hapsburg oppression. This oppression may be symbolized by the return addressee of the favorite cover, who may well have been "all bad" to the people of Göding, except that he probably collected stamps. The cover may indeed represent the "flickering last twilight in the days of wine and roses." However, neither the wine nor the roses were for the subjugated peoples of the Hapsburg Empire. To those who are less blinded by pomp, and understand oppression, the cover might symbolize the dawn of a new era of freedom and democracy for many of the nations of Central Europe. To the Czechs this was the Republic of T. G. Masaryk, the boy born of poor parents in Göding. The men of Göding may not have fought in the mud at Flanders, but more likely at Zborov, Bachmač, Vouziers or Doss Alto (Scott 228, 229, 243-245).

I may be a bit hard on Mr. Gidley for not recognizing Göding-Hodonín

\*American Philatelist, vol. 90, No. 7, July 1967, pp 523-524.

as the birthplace of T. G. M., Czechoslovakia's Liberator and First President. But if his cover is mounted and described, let him rework his album page and note the need to maintain Austrian troops in Göding in 1915 (nowhere near the front—though an old military post), as well as the need to censor mail both in Brünn and Dresden. Then let him recall that culture and music didn't really die after the Hapsburg Empire fell. The Czechs may have appreciated Mozart as much as or more than the Austrians. If Mr. Gidley would like to know more of what replaced "Victorian Europe" through philately, he might consider our hearty invitation to join our Society.

And finally, Mr. Gidley, if I've turned you off on this cover, just send it on to me.

---

**NEW MEMBER**

1147 Leo Winkamp, H. Cleyndert Weg 533, Amsterdam, Netherlands

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781 Mrs. Edna B. Cummins, Rt. 3, Box 3079, Wilcox Rd., Red Bluff, CA 96080

1047 Joseph Vondrak (corrected from Vondak)

747 Louis S. Slivon (corrected from Slivan)

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## Charley's Corner

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During the past two years I have been viewing philatelic material that was put on auction by dealers. This material is referred to as "proofs," "double prints," and multiple printings in various combinations on buff, chalk, or other various types of paper. I have also studied the prices they have been asking for these items. Here is some background about how this material came into existence.

During the Hradcany period 1918-1921 and at the time of some of the early issues, paper was very scarce. The printing company that contracted to print these early issues wanted to test the impressions of the plates and did so by printing these designs on any type of paper that was in their own stock. One can find impressions imprinted on the backs of old calendars. A sheet could be used several times and could also be overprinted with different values and designs. Many times the Newspaper issues or Special Delivery issues were printed, mixed together, or mixed with Hradcany issues.

This material is properly called "waste prints" or "printer's waste," and should not be confused as "proofs" or other special printings. Multiple impressions of various issues and values are very common and not "rare" as some dealers may indicate. One guideline to follow to be sure you are purchasing "printer's waste" is that the color is the same as on the issued stamp. The same printing, no matter on what kind of paper, but which is in a color other than was used on the issued stamp is a "proof" and commands a much higher price.

During my many years of collecting, prices have been changing annually. "Printer's waste" used to sell anywhere from 1c to 15c a piece. Now, the going price appears to be about 20c-25c for each copy. This seems a little expensive, but prices are going up, even in philately. Be careful that you do not pay a surcharge for each impression as this also is very commonplace. If you want to cut out a stamp or block of this "printer's waste," stay within the above guide lines.

One impression which is somewhat hard to find even in "printer's waste" is the 50 haler blue Hradcany, Scott #31—Pofis #16. I feel a collector should not go overboard on this type of material even though the blue impression does command a higher price.

### New Issues



On July 21st there was issued a set of 4 stamps depicting "Old Engravings of Ships" (40h, 60h, 1Kčs and 2Kčs) printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure.



On May 14, 1976 the Federal Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Czechoslovakia issued a set of commemoratives entitled "55 Years of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia" comprising the following two stamps and one souvenir sheet: 30h Designed by Ivan Schurmann, engraved by Miloš Ondráček. Colors: dark royal blue, red, gold. 60h Designed by Milan Hegar, en-



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KTERÝ NA SEBE VZALA JAKO VEDOUcí SÍLA DĚLNICKÉ TŘÍDY  
A OSTATNÍCH PRACUJÍCÍCH  
GUSTAV MURÁK

graved by Ladislav Jirka. Colors: dark red, bright red, pale blue, gold.

Both stamps are printed by rotary recess print combined with two and three-color photogravure, in sheets of 50.

6 Kčs (souvenir sheet), designed by Milan Hegar, engraved by Jos. Herčík. Colors: blue, dark red, gold, bright red.

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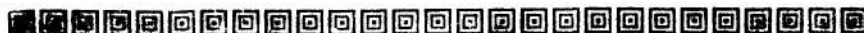


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