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Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

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A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXIX

March 1977

No. 3, Whole No. 368

A Philatelic View of Czechoslovakia Boundaries and Their Changes

By Ing. Vladimir Feldmann (Translated and adapted by L. H. Vydra)

March 14, 1939, Slovak separatists proclaimed a so-called "independent Slovak state." This action was brought about by political pressure asserted



Picture No. 8

Provisional postmarks of the German post from the Czech territories annexed as a result of the Munich Dictat. A nationalized postmark from Horní Planná (Southern Bohemia) dated October 10, 1938, with mixed frankings. Postmark of Liberec 1 (Reichenberg) on German stamps, cancelled November 11, 1938. A postmark from the Northern Moravian village of Německá Libina (Deutsch Liebau) German stamps, cancelled November 11, 1938.

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by Adolph Hitler. In July, 1939, this area was officially renamed The Slovak Republic. (Picture No. 9).

On the same day the independence of the Carpatho-Ukraine was announced. The official name prior to this time and until 1938 was Ruthenia. However, no other state recognized it and during the war period all of the Ruthenian territory was occupied by Hungary.

March 15, 1939, German troops occupied the remnants of the truncated historic Czech lands and annexed them to the Third Reich as the "Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia," and post-war Czechoslovakia thus ceased to exist de facto. However, it continued to exist dejure. Several powers, among them the United States, never accepted or recognized the Nazi liquidation of the Czechoslovak Republic. The Czechoslovak diplomatic missions located in these countries, continued to function therein without any interruption during the period of the German occupation.

After the liberation of Czechoslovakia in 1945, the boundaries were reestablished to their 1937 status. Some voices were raised for the correction of the borders and therefore there exists some philatelic material related to this matter. There was for example, a demand for the annexation of the Lusatia region of Saxony. This area is adjacent to the Northwest border of Bohemia and is where the descendants of the original Slavic inhabitantsthe Lusatian Serbs-still reside. On September 9, 1945, there was a large political gathering held in the town of Lišov. Upon this occasion the local post office cancelled mail with a special handstamped postmark.

The numerous Czech minority who lived in the Saxon border town of žitava (Zittau) petitioned for the annexation of their town to Czechoslovakia. The local Czech National Committee organized the delivery of the mail of the local Czech inhabitants to Czechoslovakia. This was during the period when no mail routes existed in the Soviet occupation zone in Germany, in which the town of Zittau was located. Interesting philatelic documents and related material from this period were published by Mr. K. F. Pešak in Filatelie, No.'s 17 and 18, 1970, pages 532 and 561. Since the aforementioned action was not

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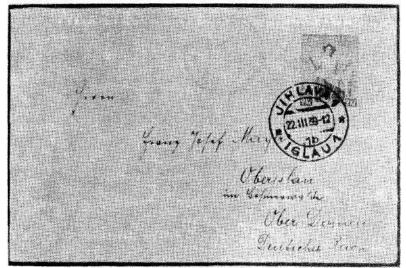
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(Picture No. 9)

Czechoslovak machine cancellation Bratislava 1, dated March 28, 1939. Mixed franking with a regular Czech stamp and the overprinted first issue of the Slovak state. A letter from the District Court in Nové Město nad Vahom to a District Court in Southern Bohemia, located in the Czech Protectorate and dated May 3, 1939, cancelling the Czech stamps of the 1935-36 Masaryk issue.



Picture No. 10

A letter mailed March 22, 1939, from Jihlava (Iglau 1) then under the Protectorate, to the former Czech town of Horní Planná (Oberplan) then in Gau Ober Donau (župa Hornodunajská). The postmark is a bilingual Czech postmark of Type II. The stamp is a Czech commemorative stamp of 1938. The letter also bears a postmarked propaganda slogan relative to the "Liberation of Iglau."

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successful the Czechoslovak boundaries remained as in 1937.

The Postupim (Potsdam) Agreement of 1945 decreed all German territories East of the Odra-Missa (Oder-Meise) Rivers to be under Polish jurisdiction.

In 1949 two German states were created. The Federal German Republic (Bundesrepublic Deutschland—West Germany) and the German Democratic Republik (Deutsche Demokratische Republik—East Germany). Both of these German states are neighbors and border the Czechoslovak Republic. The former along the Western Bohemia border and the latter on Northern Bohemia's border.

There was also a suggestion for a boundary correction between Czechoslovakia and Austria, located near Bratislava. This also did not materialize. A special Czechoslovak-Austria state treaty in 1955 confirmed the 1937 boundaries between these two countries. See special Austrian commemorative stamp, Scott No. 604.

(To be continued)

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

WANTED: Slovak covers, postmarked Jablonka, Dolna, Lipnica, Horna Zubrica, Jurgon, Fridman and Czechoslovak Hluein. R. H. Imus, P. O. Box 1161, Springfield, Va. 22151.

WANTED TO BUY: An original copy of Padelky. Also any material, stamps, covers, documents, maps, etc., from Carpatho-Ukraine. Dominick J. Riccio, 235 West 76 Street, Apt. 4D, New York, N. Y. 10023.

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Editor's Gazette

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

Amidst a record breaking cold wave, here in the Chicagoland area, I am preparing this March Specialist. 39 days of continuous temperatures 32 Fahrenheit (0 Centigrade) and LOWER, mostly lower. The snow is soft and lovely making our little area here appear as a view on a picture postcard. It is not so picturesque if you are stalled in your automobile in some snow bank or outside shovelling the side walks but here sitting in my arm chair, warm and cosy, looking out into the yard it is a winter wonderland.

Daily, I await our mailman in hopes that he will deliver a letter from one of our members, informing me of the name of Bohemia's first Postmaster General. (See February Specialist, Editor's Gazette). Ambrosius Thurn-Taxis was appointed the first Postmaster General of Bohemia by King Ferdinand I (1526-1564). This Bohemian King also ruled in Hungary.

BALPEX-77.

Our Annual convention and meeting of the SCP will be held at BALPEX on September 3, 4, and 5, 1977, which is Labor Day weekend. Balpex is sponsored by the Baltimore Philatelic Society, and is held at the Hunt Valley Inn on Shawan Road, just off route I-83, north of the city.

President Henry Hahn has appointed Dick Major to be the chairman for our Society's participation in this national show. Dick is forming a committee to help make this a great success. If you are planning on attending, and would like to help Dick Major, and his committee, please contact him by writing P. O. Box 4074, Arlington, Va. 22204.

Balpex Chairman, Mr. Kalman Illyefalvi, has agreed to furnish us with show prospectus, and it will be sent to you together with a future copy of our Specialist. Our Society has promised to fill 100 frames, and since Balpex is a national show it is important that you enter and strive to win a gold or silver award, thus qualifying for Praga-78, next year's international show in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

In addition to the Balpex award there will be Special SCP awards made to the exhibitors of material related to Czechoslovakia. The Balpex awards banquet will be held on Sunday evening, September 4th, therefore, there will be a dinner meeting of our Society on Saturday evening, September 3rd. Please reserve this weekend for a great show and a great meeting with the members of our SCP.

AN INVITATION!

Collectors of Czechoslovakia's postage stamps all over the world are invited to take part in the 14th annual international philatelic poll sponsored by the Editors of the Czechoslovak daily, "Mladá Fronta."

"For the Best Czechoslovak Postage Stamp of 1976"

Here are the two questions to be answered:

- 1) Which Czechoslovak postage stamp issued in 1976 did you like best, based on the artist's conception as an original subject?
- 2) Which Czechoslovak postage stamp issued in 1976 did you like best, based on the engraving, using another artist's subject for the design?

Every collector answering the above two questions, to the best of their knowledge and belief, will receive a philatelic souvenir, a piece of fine graphic art created by one of the outstanding author's of Czechoslovakia's postage stamps, provided that a self-addressed envelope approximately seven by five inches in size is enclosed, together with two international reply coupons to cover the cost of postage. Page 22 March 1977

Philatelic clubs may organize "collective voting," indicating separately the results of the exact number of members voting and enclosing the respective quantities of official international reply coupons. They will receive the same number of philatelic souvenirs for distribution for club members participating.

Replies are to be sent, Via Air Mail, to: MLADÁ FRONTA — Philatelic Poll

Panská 8, Prague 1, 112-22 Czechoslovakia,

so that they arrive in Prague, no later than April 15, 1977.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1156 Fred Deutsch, 9512 Meadow Grove Court, Burke, Va. 22015
- 1157 Paul Sturman, 1200 S. Arlington Ridge Rd., Arlington, Va. 22202
- 1158 Ronald B. Moxon, 205-6716 Silver Ave., Burnaby, B.C., Canada VSH 2Y6
- 1159 Wayne Sibum, R. D. 4, Box 120, East Stroudsburg, Pa. 18301 —Youth
- 1160 Peter Vouhsem, Ackerstr. 11, D4236 Hamminkeln, Western Germany

New Issues

On August 28, there was issued a set entitled "Bountiful Earth—1976 National Exhibition" comprising the following three stamps:

- 30h Ram, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, in greenish-black, red, green and blue
- 40h Cow, engraved by Jindra Schmidt in brown, red, green and blue
- 1.60 Kčs Horse, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, in black, red, green, and blue.

On November 27th there was issued a set of four entitled ART STAMPS—WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION PRAGA 1978, having the denominations 1, 1.40, 2, and 3.60 Kčs. The issue was printed in miniature sheets in se-tenant arrangement.









WANTED

Boy Scout stamps and covers. Quote price first letter.

STRAUSS - P. O. Box 321 - Peekskill, N. Y. 10566

The Issues, Surcharges, Cancellations and Vignettes of the Sudetenland

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. 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)

1913. German military subjects, multicolor, 2 h. value:

39-Monument of the Battle of Leipzig

40-Collecting of gold after 1805

41-Execution of Officer-Patriots

42-Blücher on horseback

43-Troops arriving at the banks of the Rhine in 1813

44-Death of Korner

45-Revolt of 1813

46-Hagen throwing the gold into the Rhine

47-Siegfried forging his arms

48-The "Graf Zeppelin"

(Pictures)

Numbers 29 to 38 and 39 to 48 were printed in blocks of ten, each one of the ten seals being represented in the block.

1922. Clock of the Town Hall of Znaim:

49-10 h. green (on green and on red paper)

1925. Bluets:

50-10 h. violet

1927. Eagle in flight:

51-10 h. blue-violet.

Seals of the "Deutscher Schulverein" (Union of German Schools)

The Deutscher Schulverein was founded in 1880; its headquarters was in Vienna and there were more than 200,000 members in 2,500 branches. This "Union of German Schools" had as its purpose the founding of schools and kindergartens to preserve the German language and culture beyond the borders of the German Empire. They issued more than 300 seals, the series of which are listed as follows:

1908. Six values, picture of the Neu-Leskau school

Six values, picture of Teschen

Six values, view of Trebnitz in Bohemia

Six values, view of Prachatitz

(Pictures)

These four series were reissued in different colors in 1909. The seals were 43x28 mm and had the same border.

1909 was also the year of issue of a series of 5 stamps, among which were the following series in various frames, 2 h. value:

View of Budweis, in Bohemia

Böhmisch-Schumburg

Bergreichenstein, in Bohemia

Turnau, in Moravia

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(Pictures)

One final seal of this series produced by pan-German associations with a national following was that issued for the Haida-Leitmeritz (Bor-Litomerice) branch of the "Pressespende Deutsch-böhmischer Volks-Anzeiger" association of Prague.

Besides the national issues listed above, many districts and local areas also issued propaganda seals which are even more numerous than those of the nationwide organizations. It is impossible to list them all so we will confine ourselves to mentioning the following three series which have a certain philatelic interest:

Deutscher Ortsrat Limoch (Libechov u Melnika) (Local German Office of Liboch). It functioned principally as a mortgage fund for German landowners on the Czecho-German linguistic frontier. There were three series issued:

1909: Head of a knight (10 values)

1909: Workman (10 values)

1913: Knight without a helmet (5 values)

Deutsches Haus Littau (German House of Littau) (Litovel). There were two issues in 1909 and 1911 for construction funds to build a home for young Germans. Each issue was composed of 5 values, those of 1911 being identical to those of 1909, except for being a smaller size.

Egerländer landtag, whose headquarters were in Prague—Benefit fund for the Technical Academy of Eger (Cheb).

1909: German foot-soldier with Imperial flag (25 values)

1911: Ruins of Egerburg (5 values).

German Propaganda Seals In The Sudetenland 1918-1938

Now we come to a second phase in the history of German propaganda seals in the Sudetenland.

Czechoslovak independence and the effort to unite Austria to Germany in 1920 aroused nationalistic fervor in the inhabitants of the Sudeten territories, especially the young, who began to form "sporting" clubs which often had nothing to do with sports. All of these groups claimed affinity with F. L. Jahn, considered the founder of physical education. F. Jahn, who was first and foremost a patriot, gathered together the young Prussians after the defeat at Jena in 1806 and put them through a physical training program which, under the appearance of sport, was a training ground for soldiers. His efforts were crowned with success in 1813. His methods were to inspire Fuegner a half century later to found the Czech Sokols, which served the same covert political ends.

It was in these same lands where the Sokols mustered opposition to Austro-Hungarian domination that the Sudeten Germans would rebel against Czech rule.

Almost all the sporting clubs issued stamps, especially when there was a local gymnasium to be constructed or dedicated, as it would serve as a "German House" (Deutsches Heim). Almost all these stamps bore the portrait of F. L. Jahn or his symbol, a sort of cross formed by four Capital F's inverted together. As history, even philatelic history, has a habit of repeating itself, we find the portrait of Jahn on a 1908 issue of the Deutscher Turnverein and 44 years later he appears again on a stamp of the German Democratic Republic in 1958 [sic] (1952) (Yvert 163).

This emblem was soon turned into the form of the swastika, and appears in this guise on many different seals of the Sudetens before undergoing its final transformation in 1926 into a figure much like Hitler's emblem. And thus we find it at the sports meet of Weibe-Eger where almost all the Su-

deten groups assembled.

(Picture)

After this came the first political seals, which often resembled those of the Nazi party in Germany. They were banned in 1928, but a new wave of Schatzmarken appeared in 1935 under the sponsorship of the SDP (German Sudeten Party) of Konrad Henlein.

In 1927 a big meeting was held at Warnsdorf (Varnsdorf) on August 13 and 14 at which the demand for autonomy for the Sudetens was the topic of discussion. What was clearly a swastika appeared against a blue carnation on a white field and was the emblem of the Austro-German veterans' associations

(Picture)

Finally, in 1938, the last of the Schatzmarken appeared when Germany annexed the Sudetenland. Its text was written in the local dialect and it is the issue which brings to a close our study of these little-known German propaganda seals in the Sudetenland, of which there were about 800 issues for Bohemia-Moravia and about 3,500 for German clubs in Europe and America.

(Picture)

Naturally, the Czech government reacted strongly against the pan-German propaganda which flourished between 1920 and 1938, especially in the Sudetenland.

(Picture)

To prove the point one has only to glance at the 1934 cancellation in Czech and German, applied at Leitmeritz (Litomerice), a central Sudeten town. It reads: One week of military service.

The following is a list of the principal local issues which appeared between 1918 and 1938 in Bohemia-Moravia and the Sudetenland.

Wekelsdorfer-Raubschloss (Teplice nad Metuji)

1918—A stamp showing this castle was issued locally, but with the initials of the Bund der Deutschen in Böhmen, green, yellow and black.

Neubistritz (Nova Bystrice)

1919—German sporting club. Portrait of F. Jahn, 1 value—red, gold and black.

(Pictures)

1920—German sporting club. Emblem, rose, yellow, red and black.

Polten (Belotin)

1921—Sporting union. No value indicated. Stone-thrower, green.

Zuckmantel (Cukmantl U Cechach)

1922-Building of the municipal gymnasium, 2 values. Allegory.

Radowitz (Radvanec)

1923-Sporting association, 1 value. Portrait of Jahn, brown-rose.

1923—Sports publicity. 1 value. Emblem and oak leaf crown, pale green, red, gold and black.

(Pictures)

Zauchel (Suchdol nad Odrou)

1924—For the municipal gymnasium. View of the city, 1 value, green and red.

Karlsbad (Karlovy Vary)

1924—Sporting club. Portrait of Jahn and Coat of Arms, 1 value, green, yellow, red and black, dark grey-blue.

Schwaz (Svetec U Biliny)

1928—Sporting club. Portrait of Friesen, 1 value, dark grey-blue.
(Pictures)

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Radl (Radio U Jablonce nad Nisou)

1922-Construction of Gymnasium. Flag bearer, 2 values.

Mies bei Pilsen (Stribro U Plzne)

1926—German sporting club, 4 values, 3 types: landscape and allegory. They bear the legend: "Linguistic frontier of Western Bohemia."

(Pictures)

Wurbenthal (Urbrno Ve Slezsku)

1926-Sporting club, 9 values. Landscapes (6 types).

Proschwitz (Prosecna U Hostinneho)

1926—Construction of gymnasium, 5 values of 5 different types (emblems and views).

(Pictures)

Weibe-Eger (Cheb)

1926—German sporting club, 1 value. Imperial eagle and swastika.

1927—500 anniversary of Wallenstein, 1 value. Knight mounted on spirited horse, black, red and gold.

Teschen (Tesin)

1929—League of Young Volunteers, 1 value. Campfire, red. Patriotic League of Sudeten Germans (Headquarters at Berlin).

1935—Map of the Sudeten territory, rising sun, and a Gothic letter inscription "O Lord, set us free." This seal was used throughout the Sudetenland (black).

In addition to pro-German propaganda seals, issued in the Sudetenland both before and after 1918, numerous seals were produced for a variety of sporting and cultural events.

(Pictures)

Among hundreds of such seals which come to mind were those issued from the 13th to the 20th of October, 1912, to commemorate the Sports Exposition at Maffersdorf (Vratislavice nad Nisou) and those in 1925 at Aussig (Usti nad Labem) in honor of the regional choir competition.

Famous in their time also were the sporting seals of Arnsdorf, Schmiedeberg and Wiesenthal.

Details of the German propaganda seals of gymnastic associations in the Sudetenland come from the research done thirty years ago by the late M. V. Demange. We are very grateful for his work as well as that of M. Liégard of the Havre.

Neo-Nazi Seals 1950-1970

When one might have expected all such German propaganda activity in regard to the Sudetenland to have come to an end, a pan-German and neo-Nazi organization was formed in 1966.

This group, called "OSTLAND," was based in Graz, Austria. They had had printed a sheet of pro-German seals, perforate and imperforate, in Gothic letters (which, in itself, is enough to remind us of Nazism, as Gothic lettering has almost disappeared in Germany), and certain ones apply to Bohemia and the Sudeten territory.

The translation of the 4 seals which we reproduce below can certainly give one pause!

"The master of Bohemia is the master of Europe"

"German has been the language of writing in Prague for 600 years"

"Prague, the oldest German university 1348-1945"

"Value of the losses of the German Sudetens in 1945: 19.440 million dollars"

You can hardly match this for propaganda today!

From the President's Stock Book

Henry Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor Lane, Fairfax, VA 22030

One of my favorite stamps has always been the 125h Masaryk typography of September 23, 1920, bearing a portrait of President Masaryk by Max Švabinský. Part of my love for this stamp, along with the later 500h and 1000h engravings, is due to the fact that at school in Czechoslovakia I daily faced the full length portrait of the "President—Liberator" from which the face on the stamp was taken. To be more precise, the full length portrait was a wood cut made in 1919, the head of which was redrawn in India ink by Švabinský for stamp use.

Up to recent years it appeared that relatively few collectors studied the 125h typography extensively. Fortunately this has been corrected recently with publication of Monografie 21, in which some 36 pages are devoted to the 125h, 500h and 1000h stamps. The treatment of plate varieties of the 125h is somewhat superficial in comparison with what had been done with the Hradčany plate varieties in Monografie 1, and I was therefore delighted with subsequent studies and comments by Messrs. Alois šnoflák,2 František žampach and Richard Bayer,3 which appeared in FILATELIE. The referenced article cites numerous plate varieties, but unfortunately illustrates only some. Having a fair number of copies of the 125h in my collection, I tried identifying some of the described plate varieties. However, since there are two plates-not to mention some retouches-I found this to be quite difficult due to the lack of illustrations. I subsequently contacted the Editor of FILATE-LIE, Ing. Houška and eventually obtained the lacking illustrations from Mr. František žampach, along with the original glossies of the illustrations published in FILATELIE. To facilitate their use I integrated the two sets of illustrations, placing them in numerical sequence. Illustrated and described below are what might be considered the major plate varieties of both typography plates. Minor varieties have also been studied, but I have thus far not assembled the available information. Below, with sincere thanks to FILATELIE and author šnoflák, as well as Mr. žampach for his private communications and photographs, are the major varieties of plate I and II.

3) Ibid, 1976, p. 581.

Plate I

Plate	position	Description
	6	Elongated dot after "ŠVABINSKÝ"
	7	Lowest part of "I" is misshapen
	11	Line above VE in "SLOVENSKA"
	15	White spot on upper horizontal line in letter E in "ENSKA"
	22	Break in frame between V and E in "SLOVENSKA"
	28	Cut into design near lower right corner
	30	White dot below K in "ČESKO"
	41	White scratch from right eye across temple toward hair
	49	Broken frame between N and S in "VENSKA"
	50	Colored dot in cross member of N
	51	Colored dot in horizontal line under left rose
	53	Colored dot to right of 5, half way down

Monografie Československých Známek, Díl 2, Nakladatelství Dopr. a Spojů, PRAGUE 1971.

²⁾ FILATELIE, Dec. 1975 pp. 366-368.

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Plate 1



Colored dot in letter K in "....VENSKA" 55 White spot above head in shaded background 59 Colored "L" to lower left of frame 70 Colored dot above O (above frame) in "POSTA" 71 Vertical colored line outside frame at lower left 72 White dot in hair on left side 78 White dot, to left of left spiral 81 Colored dot outside frame at bottom right 82 White elongated mark to upper left of Č in "ČESKO...." 85 Colored dot outside frame, half way down on left 87 Colored dot in curved frame section under S in "ČES...." 91 White dot to right of right temple 98

99 Mound in frame line above N in "....ENSKA"

Plate 2



83. Plat

3.		Tiate 2
ate	position	Description
	2	White scratch mark to left of right ear lobe
	6	Damaged frame above S in "NSKA"
	15	Colored dot connected to frame above K in "NSKA"
	26	Colored dot above O, inside frame in "POSTA"
	35	Flattened right side of curve of S
	36	Colored spots before and after M in "M. šVABINSKÝ"
	40	Colored spot before M. in "M. ŠVAB" and colored spot in spiral above and to the left of Y.
	46	Colored spot (scratch mark) to left and below of M. in "M. ŠVAB"
	49	White spot in A in "NSKA"
	52	Colored dot below 1 in "125"
	53	Colored spot to left of left frame

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56	Notch into design at left frame, half-way down
61	Same as 56 except somewhat lower
63	Colored dot below right side of horizontal rung in 2
65	Two colored dots below 125 outside frame
72	White line in background to left of right ear
73	White dot below O in "SLOV"
74	Three colored dots outside frame to right of "125"
80	Short horizontal rung in "2"
83	Colored dot outside left frame line (somewhat lower in position
	87 of plate 1). Also colored spots to right of hair line and
	broken line in oval at level of left eye
85	Colored projection outside frame to left of 1 in "125"
91	Damaged frame lower left and trace of plate screw at left
	half-way down
93	White spot in hair

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIETY

Your attention is hereby called to the fact that nominations for DIRECT-ORS OF THE SOCIETY are now being solicited by the President and Secretary of the Society. According to Bylaw V, a candidate to the Board must be a member in good standing but not a current member of the Board. He or she shall be nominated in writing by two members of the Society whose signatures shall be affixed to the nominating petition. He or she may be reelected to the Board, though not for consecutive terms of office. No person may nominate more than two candidates to the Board in any one election. Nominations shall close on April 30, 1977.

Please note that Board Members whose current terms of office shall expire in 1977 are: G. A. Blizil, W. Fritzsche, H. Hahn, E. Lisy and M. Vondra. These individuals are NOT eligible.

Henry Hahn, President

Edward Lisy, Secretary

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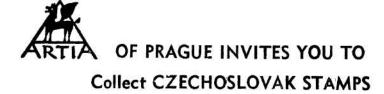
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- 5) You'll learn of the characteristic fauna and flora of Central Europe
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