

# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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No. 2, Whole No. 377

## Austro-Hungarian Naval Forces During the 1914-1918 World War

By Jiri Nekvasil

Translated by Henry Hahn

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(Continued)

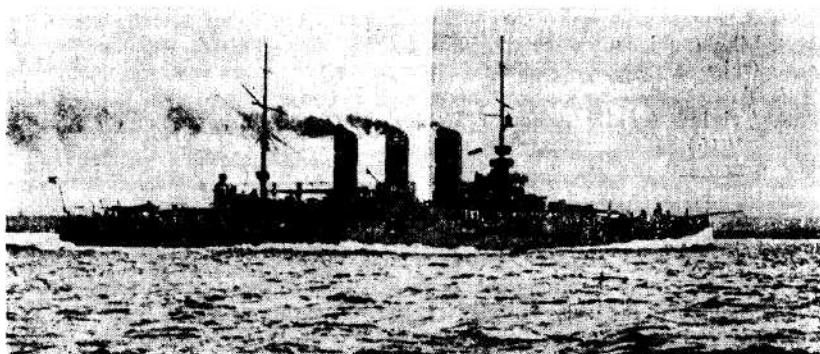


Fig. 2. S.M.S. Erzherzog Karl

### Naval Units of the Adriatic Fleet

Supreme Commander of Naval Forces: Admiral Anton Haus

Chief of Staff: Rear Admiral Josef Rodler

Fleet Flag Ship: S.M.S. Viribus Unitis

#### I. Squadron

Commander Vice Admiral Maximilian Nejcovan

##### I. Heavy Division

S.M.S. Tegetthof

S.M.S. Prinz Eugen

S.M.S. Szent Istvan

##### II. Heavy Division

S.M.S. Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand

S.M.S. Zrinyi

S.M.S. Radetzky

**II. Squadron**

Commander: Vice Admiral Franz Lofler

<b>III. Heavy Division</b>	<b>IV. Heavy Division</b>
S.M.S. Erzherzog Karl (Fig. 2)	S.M.S. Arpad
S.M.S. Erzherzog Friedrich	S.M.S. Babenberg
S.M.S. Erzherzog Ferdiand Max	S.M.S. Habsberg

**V. Division of Armored Coastal Ships**

S.M.S. Budapest  
 S.M.S. Monarch  
 S.M.S. Wien (sunk in December 1917)

**Fleet of Cruisers**

S.M.S. Sankt Georg	S.M.S. Zenta (sunk August 16, 1914)
S.M.S. Kaiser Karl VI. (Fig. 3)	S.M.S. Kaiserin Elisabeth (sunk off China November 7, 1914)
S.M.S. Kaiserin und Konigin Maria Theresia	S.M.S. Panther
S.M.S. Kaiser Franz Josef I	S.M.S. Leopard
S.M.S. Sziatvar	S.M.S. Kdonprinz Erzherzog Rudolf (Old battleship, guard ship for the Boka Kotorska)
S.M.S. Aspern	
S.M.S. Novara	
S.M.S. Saida	

**I. Fleet of Torpedo Cutters**

Flag ship of the Fleet: S.M.S. Helgoland

<b>I. Torpedo Division</b>	<b>III. Torpedo Division</b>
S.M.S. Balaton	S.M.Tb. 77 T
S.M.S. Dukla	S.M.Tb. 78 T
S.M.S. Cesepel	S.M.Tb. 79 T
S.M.S. Lika (sunk December 29, 1915)	S.M.Tb. 80 T
S.M.S. Orjen	S.M.Tb. 81 T
S.M.S. Tatra	S.M.Tb. 82 T
S.M.S. Triglav (sunk December 29, 1915)	S.M.Tb. 83 T
	S.M.Tb. 84 T

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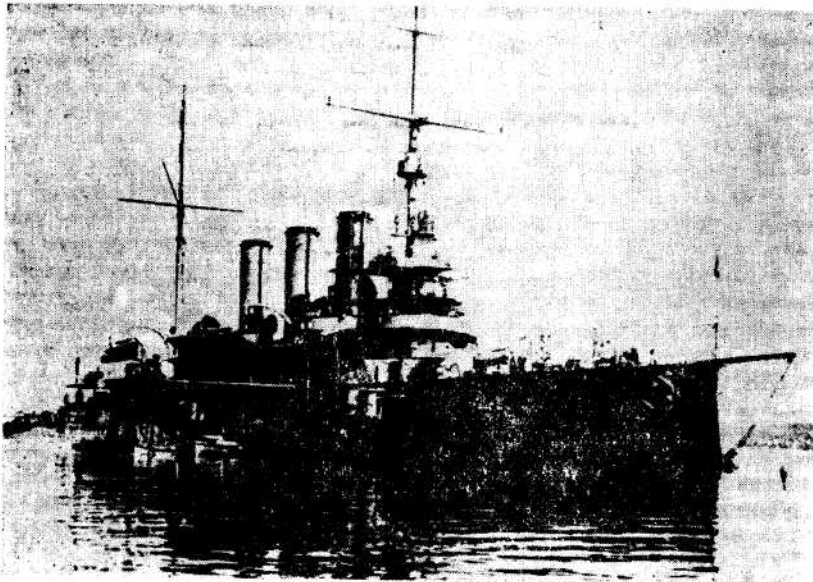


Fig. 3. S.M. Panzerkreuzer Kaiser Karl VI

V. Torpedo Division	VII. Torpedo Division	IX. Torpedo Division
S.M.Tb. 85 F	S.M.Tb. 93 F	S.M.Tb. 50 E
S.M.Tb. 86 F	S.M.Tb. 94 F	S.M.Tb. 51 T
S.M.Tb. 87 F	S.M.Tb. 95 F	S.M.Tb. 52 T
S.M.Tb. 88 F	S.M.Tb. 96 F	S.M.Tb. 53 T
S.M.Tb. 89 F	S.M.Tb. 97 F	S.M.Tb. 54 T
S.M.Tb. 90 F	S.M.Tb. 98 M	S.M.Tb. 55 T
S.M.Tb. 91 F	S.M.Tb. 99 M	S.M.Tb. 56 T
S.M.Tb. 92 F	S.M.Tb. 100 M	

**Fleet of Torpedo Boats for Coastal Defense and Patrol Duty**

S.M.Tb. 1	S.M.Tb. 11	S.M.Tb. 21
S.M.Tb. 2	S.M.Tb. 12	S.M.Tb. 22
S.M.Tb. 3	S.M.Tb. 13	S.M.Tb. 23
S.M.Tb. 4	S.M.Tb. 14	S.M.Tb. 24
S.M.Tb. 5	S.M.Tb. 15	S.M.Tb. 25
S.M.Tb. 6	S.M.Tb. 16	S.M.Tb. 26 (sunk)
S.M.Tb. 7	S.M.Tb. 17	S.M.Tb. 27
S.M.Tb. 8	S.M.Tb. 18	S.M.Tb. 28 (de-
S.M.Tb. 9	S.M.Tb. 19	commissioned before
S.M.Tb. 10	S.M.Tb. 20	war)

**II. Fleet of Torpedo Cutters**

Flag Ship of the Fleet: S.M.S. Admiral Spaun (Fig. 4)

II. Torpedo Division	IV. Torpedo Division
S.M.S. Csikos	S.M.S. Huszar
S.M.S. Dinara	S.M.S. Streiter
S.M.S. Pandur	S.M.S. Turul
S.M.S. Reka	S.M.S. Warsdiner
S.M.S. Scharfschutze	S.M.S. Wildfang
S.M.S. Uzsok (constructed in 1917)	S.M.S. Ulan
S.M.S. Velebit	S.M.S. Uskoke

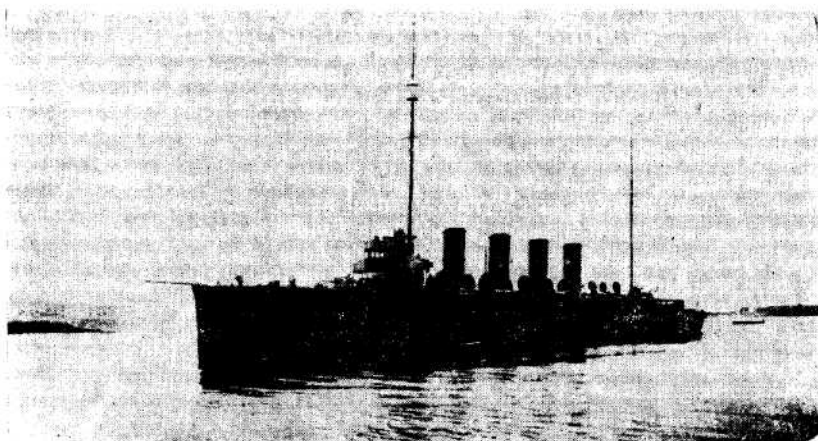


Fig. 4. S.M. Rapidkreuzer Admiral Spaun

VI. Torpedo Division	VIII. Torpedo Division	X. Torpedo Division
S.M.Tb. 70 F	S.M.Tb. 57 T	S.M.Tb. 63 T
S.M.Tb. 71 F	S.M.Tb. 58 T	S.M.Tb. 64 F
S.M.Tb. 72 F	S.M.Tb. 59 T	S.M.Tb. 65 F
S.M.Tb. 73 F	S.M.Tb. 60 T	S.M.Tb. 66 F
S.M.Tb. 74 F	S.M.Tb. 61 T	S.M.Tb. 67 R
S.M.Tb. 75 F	S.M.Tb. 62 T	S.M.Tb. 68 F
S.M.Tb. 76 F		S.M.Tb. 69 F

## Fleet of Torpedo Cutters for Base Assignments

S.M.S. Blizt	S.M.S. Magnet	S.M.S. Trabant
S.M.S. Momet	S.M.S. Meteor	S.M.S. Satelit
	S.M.S. Planet	

## Fleet of Torpedo Boats (later used as mine sweepers)

S.M.B. 29	S.M.B. 33	S.M.B. 37
S.M.B. 30	S.M.B. 34	S.M.B. 38
S.M.B. 31	S.M.B. 35	S.M.B. 39
S.M.B. 32	S.M.B. 36	S.M.B. 40

## Notes pertaining to Torpedo boats:

Boats Number 1-10, 12-18 served for coastal defense and native duty.

No. 11. Deserted to the enemy in October 1917.

No. 19 through No. 40 were mine sweepers.

No. 28, 41-49 did not exist during the war.

No. 50-73 were escort ships.

No. 74-100 were new combat ships.

No. 200 was a German torpedo cutter under Austrian command.

## Submarine Fleet (Fig. 5)

S.M.Ub 1-6 were extremely old vessels (No. 3 was sunk on August 12, 1915; No. 6 in April 1915)

No. 7-9 were German submarines in the Mediterranean.

No. 10-11 were placed in service in May 1915.

No. 12 was sunk in August 1915.

No. 14 was the captured French submarine Curie.

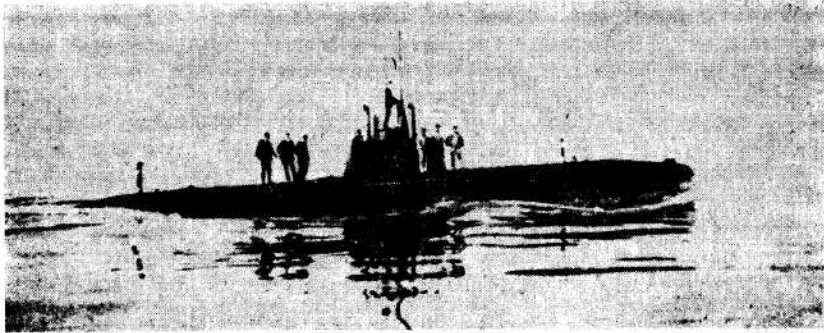


Fig. 5. S.M.U. IV (His Majesty's Submarine)

- No. 15-17 were not placed in service till October 1917.
- No. 20-23 were in service from 1917 on.
- No. 27-32 were placed in service in August 1917.
- No. 40-41 were placed in service in February 1917.
- No. 43-47 were originally German submarines with Austrian crew from July 1917.

#### Special Purpose Ships

This group includes all ships which were essential to the smooth operation of the complex Naval forces. They are divided by groups according to their duties.

#### School Ships

- S.M.S. Spalato, Naval Gunnery School
- S.M.S. Sebenico, Officers' Gunnery School
- S.M.S. Adria (hulk), until 1915 gunnery school, later a supply ship for German submarines.
- S.M.S. Feuerspeicher (hulk), originally the ship Erzherzog Albrecht, later gunnery school, then supply ship for German submarines.
- S.M.S. Delta, Naval Officer-Aspirant's (candidate) Training School
- S.M.S. Alpha (formerly Greif) Torpedo School
- S.M.S. Zara, Torpedo School
- S.M.S. Gamma, Mine and Blockade Duty School
- S.M.S. Kronprinzessin Stephanie, Mine and Blockade Duty School
- S.M.S. Custoza, Naval Officer-Aspirant (candidate) Training School, later a service depot
- S.M.S. Schwarzenberg, School for cabin boys
- S.M.S. Conau (hulk), School for enlisted men
- S.M.S. Albatros, School for enlisted men
- S.M.S. Nautilus, School for enlisted men
- S.M.S. Mars, Warrant Officers' School (mine service)

#### Ships for Torpedo Service

- S.M.S. Don Juan D'Austria, headquarters for torpedo services (hulk) (Fig. 6)
- S.M.S. Gaa, Floating Torpedo Base
- S.M.S. Pelikan, Floating Torpedo Base
- S.M.S. Minerva, Torpedo Service (hulk)
- S.M.S. Frundsberg, Torpedo Service (hulk)

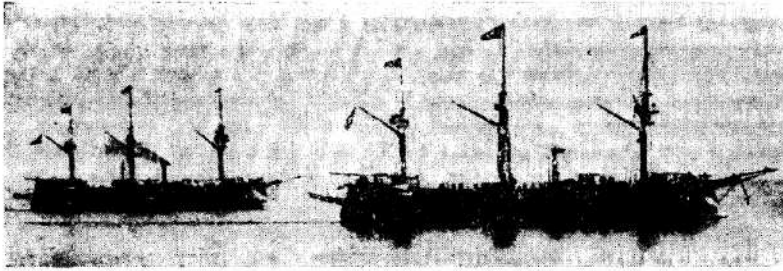


Fig. 6. S.M.S. Don Juan (Headquarters Torpedo Services) and Kaiser Max

#### Mine Layers

S.M.S. Chamaleon

#### Mine Sweepers

S.M.S. Basilisk

S.M.S. Dromedar

S.M.S. Salamander

#### Tankers

S.M.S. Bellona, Controller (II Reserve)

S.M.S. Gigant, Floating Filling Station

S.M.S. Najade, Drinking Water Tanker

S.M.S. Vesta, Naptha Fuel Tanker

#### Steamboats of the Austrian Customs Service

K.u.K. Finanz-Dampfer Rutter von Bilinski

K.u.K. Zara

K.u.K. Adria

#### Shop and Relief Vessels

S.M.S. Cyklop, Shop and repair ship in Kotor

S.M.S. Hercules, Repair ship on POLA

S.M.S. Vulkan, Repair (hulk) in Sebenico

#### Hospital Ships

Seespitalschiff Baron Gall I

Seespitalschiff Metcovich II

Seespitalschiff Graf Wurmbrand IV

Seespitalschiff Africa V

Seespitalschiff Argentina VI

Seespitalschiff Elektra VII

Seespitalschiff Oceania VIII

Seespitalschiff Dampfer X

#### Coal Carriers

S.M.S. Pola

S.M.E. Teodo

#### Steam Tug Boats

S.M.S. Buffel

S.M.S. Hippos

Armed Steamships used as mine sweepers at end of war  
(S.M.D.=His Majesty's Steamship)

S.M.D. Ante Starcvic	S.M.D. Kvarner	S.M.D. San Mauro
S.M.D. Andreas Hofer (gunboat)	S.M.D. Liburnia	S.M.D. Slavija
S.M.D. Adria	S.M.D. Egida	S.M.D. Senj
S.M.D. Arsa	S.M.D. Elore	S.M.D. Risano
S.M.D. Cetina	S.M.D. Monfalcone	S.M.D. Tatra
S.M.D. Cirkvenica	S.M.D. Makarska	S.M.D. Valona
S.M.D. Dolfin	S.M.D. Nasazio	S.M.D. Vodice
S.M.D. Fasana	S.M.D. Neretva	S.M.D. Zadar
S.M.D. Kathi	S.M.D. Novi	
	S.M.D. Pelagosa	

#### Navy Yachts

S.M.J. Dalmat (yacht)

S.M.J. Fantasie (formerly a yacht, hulk since 1913)

S.M.J. Miramar (Imperial Yacht)

S.M.J. Lussin (yacht)

S.M.J. Taurus (patrol boat in Constantinople before the war)



Fig. 7. K.u.K. (Imperial and Royal) Marinefeldpostamt (Marine Post Office) with distinguishing letter "C"; also a circular censor marking "Zensuriert" from the S.M.S. "Eliz. Karl." Both are dated 27 September 1915.

**Auxilliary, Transport and other ships**

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| S.M.S. Almisa                      | S.M.S. Leaderer Sandor              |
| S.M.S. Baron Kemeny                | S.M.S. Mariska                      |
| S.M.S. Brioni                      | S.M.S. Nixe                         |
| S.M.S. Bucovina                    | S.M.S. Nymphe                       |
| S.M.S. Carolina                    | S.M.S. Salona (passenger steamer)   |
| S.M.S. Dukla                       | S.M.S. Sofie Hohenberg              |
| S.M.S. Frankopan (lagoon flotilla) | S.M.S. Sayria                       |
| S.M.S. Francesca                   | S.M.S. Szapary                      |
| S.M.S. Jodola (passenger steamer)  | S.M.S. Szent Laszlo                 |
| S.M.S. Kalman Kiraly               | S.M.S. Pannonia (passenger steamer) |
| S.M.S. Koloszvar                   | S.M.S. Triton                       |
| S.M.S. Gablonz                     | S.M.S. Szeged                       |
| S.M.S. Lacrona                     |                                     |

The naval engagements of the Adriatic fleet were minimal, as large units were mostly anchored in ports. This was due to the numerical superiority of the Italian, French and British forces. Naval actions were primarily limited to torpedo carriers, submarines and other smaller units. On August 16, 1914 the old Austrian cruiser S.M.S. Zenta was sunk by French Naval units. The cruiser Zenta had participated in the naval blockade of the Montenegro coast. Another engagement was that of the small Austrian submarine S.M. Ub. 12, which in December 1914 had torpedoed and sank one of the most modern French dreadnoughts, JEAN BART.

**Naval Postal System**

In peace, prior to World War I, most Austrian units as well as certain



special ships which were part of the so-called "Hochseeflotte" (high-seas fleet) had their own postmarks which were used for the cancellation of stamps on correspondence of crews on long distance cruises. This pertained to battleships, cruisers, torpedo cutters on the high seas, certain special ships which participated in long voyages, and training cruises around the world, or which were assigned certain scientific or exploratory missions. Sailors were permitted to use either Austrian or Hungarian stamps for franking; Austrian stamps, however, were mostly used. The postal rates were the same as those designated for civilian mail except that the rates applicable to the interior of the country were permitted regardless of the location of the sender. During war, the only franking required was for registered, special delivery or foreign mail. Foreign correspondence was largely limited to naval officers. During the war, all ordinary correspondence going inland was free.

Following mobilization of the entire Navy, which proceeded rather slowly, a Field Post (K.u.K. Marinefeldpostamt) was established at POLA which was also the headquarters of the Admiralty. This Field Post served as a Post Office directorate for the entire Adriatic fleet and sorted all mail from individual ships destined to Austria-Hungary, and from Austria-Hungary to individual units or other Field Posts of the land forces. In effect, this naval field post served the postal needs of the entire Navy. From a philatelic standpoint we find a range of postmarks which might be seen on the correspondence of members of the entire Adriatic fleet. These markings serve primarily the function of "transitional" postmarks. Three hand markings were used:

(A) Double circular metal postmark having a 28mm diameter with a date bridge bounded by the inner circle. The date consisted of the day, month (Roman numeral) and the last two numerals of the year (for example 14, 15, 16, 18). In the upper inner circle is the title "K.u.K. Marinefeldpostamt" and below the domicile, "POLA". Between the two inscriptions on the left is a distinguishing lower case letter and on the opposite is a star. These postmarks exist with the following distinguishing letters: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, m, and n. An example of this postmark is illustrated in Fig. 7.

(B) A double circle rubber handstamp with an intersecting date bridge having a diameter of 27mm, with date consisting of day, month (abbreviated such as APR) and the full year, e.g., 1916. The inscriptions in the upper and lower semicircles are identical to the above, but are separated by stars.

(To be continued)

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## A Philatelic Tour of Prague

By Mrs. Jos. F. Sterba, Jr.

(Continued)

In about 1862, two buildings were built by Ignac Illman. Their architectural designs influenced the entire area around National Street (Narodni Trida) located on the bank of the Vltava River and Legion Bridge (Most Legii), now known as the First of May Bridge (Most 1 Mape). Only when you view the lovely opera house from a considerable distance, can you realize that the National Theatre is twice as high as any of the nearby buildings, including the former Lazansky Palace. The Lazansky Palace—on the right side of National Street, opposite the National Theatre—now houses the well known Slavia Cafe.



Fig. 15

The dome of the National Theatre has a lovely, soft green cast, and in all probability is composed of either copper, bronze or a brass metallic base. The elements, rain, snow and sun, as well as time have also contributed to the beauty of this building. Fig. 15 illustrates the stamp issued on November 18, 1953, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the National theatre.

The Czech people built this theatre themselves, beginning in 1868 thru 1881 and after its destruction by fire, rebuilt it again in 1883 from voluntary contributions. It is one of the finest Neo-Renaissance buildings in Prague. The first festive performance presented in the theatre in 1883 was Bedrich Smetana's opera, "Libuse." The National Theatre was opened with the proud inscription appearing, in letters of gold above the

stage, "Narod Sobe"—"A Nation to Herself."

If at all possible, attend a performance presented at the National Theatre. Arrange to arrive early so that you can study the beautiful works of art and decorations displayed in the National Theatre. The works and talent of an entire generation of artists can be viewed at the theatre. The works of Mikolas Ales, Vaclav Brozik, Josef Tulka and Frantisek Zenisek can be seen here. The drop-stage curtain is the artistic work of Vojtech Hynais and statues by J. V. Myselbek, sculptor, are arranged at the side entrance, when entering the theatre from the quay side of the building. These artists are only a few that space allows us to mention here.

The crowning sculpture on the National Theatre is a bronze chariot, placed on the upper, north-east corner of the building. It is the work of Bohuslav Schnirch. Schnirch submitted a model of the sculpture as early as 1874, but it took almost thirty-five years before his design was finally accepted. It was erected in about 1910. The composition of the design is dominated by

the winged figure of Victory, rising from a chariot. The chariot is drawn by three rearing stallions drawn "symbolically" for in fact the chariot has no shaft. A shaft could have spoiled the design, and actually there was not enough space allowed for the sculpture. The view of the outline from below and from a distance was the decisive factor favoring selection of the sculpture.

Before we leave New Town (Nove Mesto) let's walk along the Gottwald Embankment, past the Slovanic Island (Slovansky Ostrov), Building of the Society of Artists (Manes) and the Sitek Water Tower to Jiraskuv Bridge (Most).

The Slovanic Island was formed as the result of an accretion of river deposits dating back to the 18th century. In the center of the Island is a Neo-Renaissance building which, in its present form, was reconstructed in 1886. In the 19th century the Island was the center of all social and cultural life. Here among others, Liszt, Berlioz, and R. Wagner presented concerts and here the young violinist, Jan Kubelik, made his first public appearance. The large hall is now used as an exhibition room. The Island, laid out as a park, has a garden restaurant and as you stroll in the park you will see the statue of Bozena Nemcova, the famous author of the book, "Grandmother." Bozena Nemcova was honored on the 130th anniversary of her birth by the issuance of a stamp, Fig. 16, on June 21, 1950. This famous writer's statue can be located at the tip of the Slovanic Island where she stands viewing the panoramic landscape of the Little Town (Mala Strana) and Hradcany.



Fig. 16

The Manes is an architectural building complex of interesting design which also houses an exhibition hall and a large garden restaurant commands another fine view of the Vltava River, looking up to Vysehrad and overlooking the old water tower (Sitek) which dates back to 1591. This water tower was rebuilt in Baroque style in about 1648. From this water tower, water was conveyed by way of wooden pipes, to the public fountains located in New Town. Fig. 17, issued for Praga-78, provides you with an overall view of Manes, Sitek Water Tower as well as Jiraskuv Bridge (Most).



Fig. 17

Upon arrival at the junction of Jiraskov Bridge and Resslova Street (Ulice), you will come upon a very small park. Located in this park is the statue of the famous writer, Alois Jirasek. The first building (across from the park—on the corner) has a plaque commemorating the fact that Jirasek lived and died in that house. In August, 1951, a series of stamps were issued to commemorate the centenary of A. Jirasek's birth. Fig. 18 is that of Jirasek, while the paintings are two of a series of 14 lunettes painted by M. Ales and which are displayed in the foyer in the National Opera House. The 3Kcs. stamp is known as "Fables and Fate" and the 4Kcs. stamp is "Reign of Tabor."

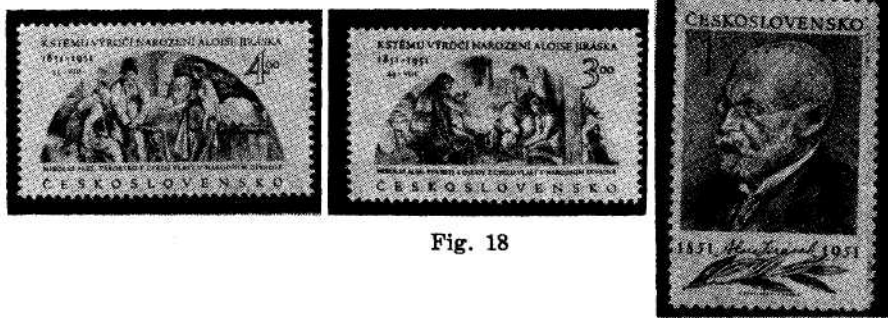


Fig. 18

This famous writer, Jirasek, has a special sentimental meaning to the writer of this article, "A Philatelic Tour of Prague." Between 1934-1939, as a student attending Alois Jirasek Czech School located in Berwyn, Illinois, the door was opened to me, introducing me to some knowledge and background of the writing and reading our beautiful Czech language. We also studied the historical and cultural background of my fore-fathers. A special sentimental feeling results from the idea or thought, "Did Alois Jirasek walk along these same streets as I have?"

We will continue walking up Resslova Street, following the street car tracks. Very shortly we will come to The Church of Saint Cyril and Methodej. This church was built between 1730-1736 by K. I. Dienzenhofer, but it was written into the annals of history during the period of the second World War.

Czechoslovak patriots, based in the army in Great Britain, were flown into Czechoslovakia, where they safely parachuted into the country. They were dedicated to carry out plans to assassinate the then Nazi Deputy Protector and Hitler's hangman, Reinhard Heydrich! Following their accomplished mission, some of the parachutists were sheltered here in this church's crypt. It was here on this corner that Gestapo Chief Panwitz, together with a regiment of SS troops, endeavored to capture the sheltered soldiers. Skirmish after skirmish continued, resulting in heavy losses to the German SS troops. All of Panwitz's plans ended in failure. It was the depletion of ammunition by the Czech soldiers, together with the use of water pumped by fire hoses, from the Vltava River, that brought the soldiers out of the crypt, into the church. Here in St. Cyril and Methodej Church the young patriots fought to the very end—and here they made their final sacrifice. There is a small showcase, mounted beneath the memorial plaque, containing the photographs of those who took part in this true legendary action. When passing, pause a moment to pay a silent tribute to these gallant young men. Daily, flowers are placed here. The people of Prague have not forgotten!

August 18, 1945, World War II heroes were honored by the issuance of a series of 16 stamps printed in London. On Fig. 19, Josef Gabcik, the Slovak patriot who died here is honored on two of the stamps issued in this series.

In retaliation of the assassination of Heydrich, Karl Frank, Nazi Secretary of State, drew up plans for one implacable gesture which would prove conclusively to the world that no one dare trifle with Nazi power or pride. The entire populace and village of Lidice was an-



Fig. 19

nihilated on June 10, 1942. This inhuman act and decision has not been forgotten by the people of the world! "Grief," illustrated on Fig. 20, cannot be forgotten. This stamp was issued on June 10, 1947, on the 5th anniversary of the destruction of Lidice.



Fig. 20

I am sure that we all devote at least a few moments of our time, in our very busy, hurry-scurry lives to meditate and reflect upon War. The wasteful destruction of countries and cities is minute when compared to the wanton loss of life, the merciless and inhuman treatment of man to his fellow-man. War is the ultimate results of the greed of men for power, prestige and position. Does this bring them true happiness during their brief periods of reigning power? War brings a sadness to the entire world. The one smile resulting from war appears when we reflect upon "The Adventures of the Good Soldier Schweik," or more commonly known in Czech as "Dobry Vojak Svejk."

Prague is famous not only for its buildings and palaces. Prague also has inns, many with interesting histories and associations. One such place is the inn "At the Sign of the Chalice," (Hostinec u Kalichu) located at #14 Battlefield Street (Cislo 14—no Bojisti) in New Town. Yes, this is the inn Jaroslav Hasek immortalized in his Adventures of the Good Soldier Schweik. Here Hasek's hero went every day, here he enjoyed life, and here, in his long rambling stories spread the philosophy of his optimistic view of the world. Here too, for Schweik, the first World War began. The inn was the gateway through which Schweik passed into history. To this inn he came after the Sarajevo assassination to drink his usual number of beers, and here he got into a conversation with the detective-provocateur who then arrested him. Thereupon, in quick and logical succession: police, court, lunatic asylum, police and finally the Front became the fate of Schweik. The inn lost one of its "regulars" while the Austrian army gained one of its most far-famed soldiers in all of its history.

If you have read this book, remember the scene where Schweik takes leave of engineer Vodicka, in a small town somewhere in Hungary? Each goes where the "brass hats" order them to, but they fix a date—and where else than "U Kalichu," six o'clock in the evening after the War! The war ended but Schweik did not keep his appointment. No, not because he broke his promise, but because the death of Jaroslav Hasek wrote "finis" across this page in history. The inn, "U Kalichu" lost two characters, Hasek and Schweik, both of whose names are linked for all time with the history of what used to be called the Great War.

On August 31, 1970, a series of 5 stamps were issued commemorating historical cannons. Fig. 21 illustrates a World War I cannon and "The Good Soldier Schweik."



Fig. 21

(Article to be continued)

## Editor's Gazette

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

### CAPEX-78

The Executive Committee of Capex-78 has issued a release listing the names of the members of the International Jury judging Capex-78, which is to be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada—June 9-18, 1978.

SCP member Bernard A. Henning has been selected to serve as one of the judges from the United States. James H. Beal, Emerson A. Clark, Charles J. Peterson, Philip Silver and Daniel W. Vooys are also participating members of the international jury. John R. Boker, Jr., and Edward A. Richardson will serve as Honorary Judges, while Horace W. Harrison is an Observer Judge. All are United States judges.

SCP Honorary member Ladislav Dvoracek is representing Czechoslovakia as a member of the International Jury.

A first for international philatelic cooperation was registered in Amsterdam when the two countries (Canada-Czechoslovakia) hosting 1978 International Philatelic Exhibitions jointly sponsored a reception.

The two organizing committees are working closely together to ensure that both events are successful. Part of this cooperation will be apparent when Capex-78 holds a Czech-Canada Cooperation day on June 14th, 1978. A similar event is being planned for Praga-78, which is to be held in September.

Jane Sterba was appointed, by H. Hahn, to be chairman of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately's convention-meeting which will be held during Capex-78. In order to be able to select a meeting date which will be receptive to a larger group of our members attending Capex, your editor has enclosed a supplemental sheet for the convenience of our members who are planning on attending Capex-78. Please be so kind to furnish this information as soon as possible, in order that plans can begin to be finalized and reported to you in a future Specialist. Accommodations will be also listed later, providing you with a wide variety of Toronto Hotels to suit every budget, moderate to deluxe.

Plan on visiting CAPEX-78 and meet our friendly Canadian neighbors.

### PRAGA-78

An extension of time has been granted by the Executive Committee of PRAGA-78. This is to allow latecomers to enter in the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, September 8th thru the 17th, 1978. The Exhibition is under the auspices of F.I.P.

The motto for PRAGA-78 is "Postage Stamps and Philately—A Sphere of Learning and Peace." Fucik Park is the location of the exhibition which will have over 10,000 frames of exhibits of which 7,500 are entered in the competitive category. The show will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the 60th anniversary of the issuance of the first Czechoslovak postage stamp.

To date, there have been some 40 gold medal collections entered from the United States; 26 frames of material in the Literature class; 20 frames of Philately exhibited in the Court of Honor. This makes a grand total of 510 international frames entered in all philatelic categories by United States collectors. It is hoped that the U. S. collectors will bring home a large number of the honors, which will be awarded at this exhibition.

Dr. Matejka, the U. S. Commissioner to PRAGA-78 is very pleased with the work that his associate Commissioners have done to make PRAGA-78 a success. "It is hoped that those that view these collections, which the Amer-



ican philatelists exhibit at PRAGA-78, will become better acquainted with our collecting interests and our way of exhibiting," state Associate Commissioners, W. Fritzsche and C. J. Peace.

Those still interested in exhibiting may get the data from Dr. J. J. Matějka, Jr., Suite 2015, 176 West Adams St., Chicago, IL 60603.

#### AN ANNOUNCEMENT

SCP member Thomas M. Tenczar, P. O. Box 3363, Scottsdale, Arizona 85257, has prepared a listing of philatelic literature which he is offering for sale. It is suggested, to those members interested in receiving a copy of the material being offered, that you send Mr. Tenczar a self-addressed, stamped envelope requesting further information.

#### SCP BOARD MEETING

The officers and members of the board of directors of The Society for Czechoslovak Philately met on Saturday, December 17, 1977, for the purpose of their annual board meeting. We met at the home of Edward Sabol, in Woodbury, New Jersey. The hospitality and sincere welcome extended to all of us, by Ed and Rene as well as Mother Marie Sabol, was very heartwarming. We all felt that we were among old friends. On behalf of our entire Society's board of directors, again our sincere Thank You!

A quorum of the 1977 board of directors was present, as well as a quorum was in attendance of the 1978 board of directors. President Henry Hahn called the board meeting to order. Since this year is a year in which new officers are elected, he requested that the officers and board members retiring from the board at the close of 1977, retire from the board room to allow the 1978-79 board of directors to elect a new staff of officers for the coming two years, beginning their term of office on January 1, 1978. The new officers are: Jane Sterba, President; George Koplowitz, Vice President; Edward Sabol, National Secretary; Charles Collins, Treasurer.

After the election of officers the two boards united, and under the leadership of President Hahn, discussed many matters pertaining to our Society. Plans were made for the coming year. These plans were discussed among the board members, in order that our Society and members would benefit from the coming planned projects. Future issues of the Specialist will advise you of these special events.

I am taking this opportunity, on behalf of the officers and members of the board of directors of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, to thank you all for your confidence in us to elect us to the board, as well as allowing us the privilege of conducting the business of the Society and to act on your behalf, if called upon, in the philatelic world. I trust that the board members will always vote upon all issues, or make all decisions relative to any Society business, with an open mind always remembering that we are representing all the members in our Society.

Words alone cannot convey to our retiring officers and board members, our respect for you and the work you have performed on behalf of our Society. We will be ever grateful that you conducted our Society in such an outstanding manner. Public acknowledgment and tribute must be made for all your efforts and work put forth on behalf of our Society.

The new officers and board of directors would appreciate the support of all former officers and board members. I feel sure your cooperation will ultimately become the stepping stones to an even greater Society for Czechoslovak philately.

The Society cannot be successful without the cooperation of all our members. If at any time any of you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact the president, any officer or board member with your suggestion or grievance. We will try to rectify the matter.

I personally am writing this communique with mixed emotions. I am not only honored, but happy and surprised that the gentlemen of our board had the confidence in me to elect me President of our Society. I can only pledge that with your help I will serve our Society to the best of my ability and that I will turn this office over to my successor with as much honor as I now receive it.

I am admitting that I am a little saddened because I will, in the near future, turn over the Specialist to a new Editor. I am going to continue writing "A Philatelic Tour of Prague," and the column "Editor's Gazette" will become the "President's Gazette."

Sincerely, Jane Sterba

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