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A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

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No. 2, Whole No. 397

1938 FIELD POST MONEY ORDER MARKINGS

(Abstracted from an article by Vladimir Drazan which appeared in FILATELIE 4/1977 p. 113 ff. — by Paul Sturman, SCP)

Vladimir Drazan refers to an extensive study made by Dr. V. Palkoska in the Czechoslovak Field Posts of 1938 which was serialized in FILATELIE in 1971 together with a complimentary article entitled "Recollections of a former Commander of the Field Post, (FILATELIE 1976, 19 and 20). Drazan observes that the so-called "district cancellations" of the money order service of the 1938 Field Post were not systematically studied despite the fact that the authors referred to them.

The Czechoslovak Field Post was inaugurated on January 10, 1938 and utilized dated cancellation devices as well as special markings for money orders, sometimes referred to as "district cancellations" or "district control markings," which were to be analogous to markings of this type used concurrently in civilian post offices. These were metal devices, square or oblong in shape, with "P.P." in the upper part of the frame and a two-digit number below the initials.

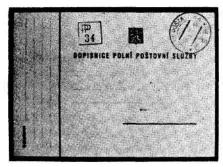


Figure 1. Courtesy-Applied Field Post 44 and PP 34 Markings (Since postal usage of this combination has not been demonstrated, it does not appear listed in Table I).

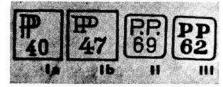


Figure 2. "PP" or "District Cancellations" by Type.

Sometime ago the author, to his amazement, ascertained that in addition to courtesy cancellations, as illustrated in Fig. 1 (which are quite common), they also appear on postally used covers, sometimes as secondary control markings. We find these, for example, on shipments of cancelled money orders, or on shipments of receipt books for the money order system which the field post offices sent every ten days to headquarters in Prague by registered Mail. For these postally important shipments special cards were provided, addressed to the "Postal Money Order Center, Prague". The "P.P." cancel appears on the upper left corner of the card, in the space ordinarily reserved for the sender's name and address. These cards are printed on blue stock and measure 8 x 11 cm.

Through study of a larger number of postally used covers the author has confirmed the findings of Dr. Palkoska to the effect that the numerals below the P.P. do not agree with the numerical designations of the field posts. In addition, these P.P. of "district markings" are not of uniform design. There appear to be three basic types:

Type I — Square in shape, size 17×17 mm, letters PP overlapping. Two sub-types are known: in subtype Ia the distance between the letters PP is smaller (2 mm), the letters do not have serifs, and the lower part of the arch of the left hand letter P cuts through the vertical part. The cyphers are narrower. In type Ib the distance between the overlapping letters PP is 3 mm, the letters have serifs, the arching part of the left hand letter does not cut through its vertical part. The numerals are wider.

Type II — Corners are rounded. After each letter P is a period. The size of this marking varies from 14×15 mm (P.P.69) to 14×16 mm (P.P.65), and to 15×16 mm (P.P. 72). There also exist some minor differences in the size and form of the letters P and the numerals.

Type III — The marking is square in form, with rounded corners. The dimensions are 15 x 15 mm, with approximately ½mm variations. The size and four of the letters and numerals differ substantially from the preceding types.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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To date it has been possible to identify 34 different markings assigned to field post offices whose use in actual postal service is demonstrated. Out of this number, 14 markings are of Type I, 13 of Type II, and 7 of Type III. A listing of Field Post Offices with corresponding PP — type markings is presented in the following table.

TABLE I - POSTALLY USED COMBINATIONS

Field Post	PP number	Туре
Central field post	71	II
Sorting office 4	69	II
Field post No. 2	40	I-a
Field post No. 3	75	II
Field post No. 4	60	III
Field post No. 5	49	I-b
Field post No. 6	62	III
Field post No. 7	64	III
Field post No. 8	78	II
Field post No. 10	81	II
Field post No. 11	87	II
Field post no. 12	26	I-a
Field post No. 21	43	I-a
Field post No. 23	86	II
Field post No. 24	82	II
Field post No. 26	76	II
Field post No. 28	84	II
Field post No. 32	61	III
Field post No. 37	54	III
Field post No. 38	25	I-a
Field post No. 39	65	II
Field post No. 40	47	I-b
Field post No. 45	38	I-a
Field post No. 46	29	I-a
Field post No. 50	42	I-a
Field post No. 51	21	I-a
Field post No. 52	35	I-a
Field post No. 53	90	II
Field post No. 54	57	III
Field post No. 55	37	I-a
Field post No. 57	22	I-a
Field post No. 59	33	I-a
Field post No. 63	56	III
Field post No. 64	74	п

1980 DUES PAST DUE

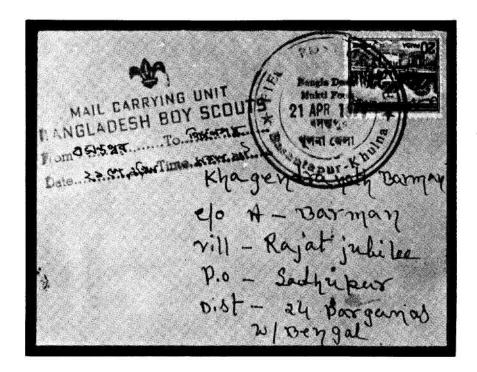
Your last month's SPECIALIST included a DUES ENVELOPE which by now should have been returned with your check. If you've forgotten, PLEASE send in your dues NOW. If you have misplaced the envelope, the dues are \$3.00 for Junior Members (to age 18), \$7.50 for Regular Membership, and \$15.00 for Patron Membership, which entitles you to the year's bound set of the SPECIALIST. An extra contribution for our Library, Special Publications Fund or other special activity will be appreciated. Dues should be mailed to our Treasurer, Charles R. Collins, 19 Empire Place, Greenbelt Maryland 20770.

WAS THERE A CZECH IN BANGLADESH?

by Dick Major, SCP

History has a way of repeating itself, or perhaps it's just that like situations call forth like solutions.

All of us know that when Czechoslovakia became independent from the Habsburg Empire Scouts were called upon to deliver mail between government offices in Prague in November and December 1918. There were even special stamps for the letters with the words "POSTA CESKYCH SKAUTU VE SLUZBACH NARODNI VLADY" (Czech Scout Post in the Service of the National Government). An unique feature of this mail however, was that the letters were stamped "Letter from Scout . . ." and the Scout signed the item to indicate just which Scout had carried the mail.



More than 50 years later East Pakistan broke away to become independent Bangladesh, and again in the early days of independence scouts were called on to carry mail. A special hand-stamp was applied to the envelopes carried which reads "MAIL CARRYING UNIT BANGLADESH BOY SCOUTS" with spaces for "From", "To", and date and time. As in Prague the Scout in Bangladesh was expected to put his name on the envelope as evidence of just who carried the mail.

History does repeat itself — or maybe there was a Czech in Dacca in 1971?

CLOSED ALBUM — James J. Matejka, Jr.

Prominent Chicago philatelist and past president of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr.. died on November 30, 1979, after a long bout with cancer.

Matejka had been a practicing physician for almost 40 years, but had devoted a great amount of time and energy to philatelic activities. He was the US Commissioner to Praga '78 and also served in this capacity at other international shows in Belgium and Austria, in addition to serving as a judge at international exhibitions in Taiwan, Germany and England.

He received the Newberry Award in 1959, the American Air Mail Society's Conrath Award in 1963 and the SPA's Lagerloef Award in 1970. In September of this year he signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in Harrowgate, England. In addition to his SCP membership, Dr. Matejka had been president of the Society of Philatelic Americans, the American Air Mail Society, COMPEX (of which he was a co-founder) and the Chicagoland Czechoslovak Philatelic Society. He belonged to many other philatelic organizations including APS, the Germany Philatelic Society, the Royal Philatelic Society of London and the War Cover Club. He contributed numerous articles to the philatelic press and was a member of the Postmaster General's Advisory Committee for eight years.

Dr. Matejka is survived by his wife, Marie, his son, James J. Matejka III, and his daughters, Mary Kulhanek and Judith Guglielmo, and two grand-children.

CHARLEY'S CORNER

By Charlie Chesloe, SCP

Many stamps being sold today by dealers and at auctions have been hinged through the years and some several times. Early hinges had a tendency to adhear to the stamps and have to be described as heavily hinged or with hinge remainders. Many of these stamps are in excellent condition with the exception of these heavy hinge remainders. These stamps usually sell for a fraction of their true worth.

Removing the hinges is fairly easy and once the hinges or hinge remainders are removed, the stamp again becomes most desirable.

First, purchase a fine camel hair brush with fine textured bristles. Place the stamp face down on a newspaper (porous paper) or paper towel. Fold up another paper towel into a napkin about 4 to 5 inches square so you will be able to blot well. In a small glass draw some rather warm water. Immerse the bristles of the camel hair brush into the warm water and then blot it on your napkin. With the damp warm bristles, gently stroke the back of the stamp along the hinge only, making sure you don't get the brush on the gum. Stroking carelessly, you will remove the gum, so be careful. Repeat this over a period of 2 to 4 minutes but make sure that you blot the brush well — you want it only damp, not wet. After several passes you will see the hinge start to wrinkle. Take a sharp thin pair of tweezers and slowly work the tip under the end of the hinge. Be careful, it should peel rather easily otherwise it needs a little more brushing. The hinge should peel right off. If the gum is a little uneven, you can use the damp brush to smooth it out — sort of work it in.

Another way is to let it semi-dry to a tacky state and put it in a stamp press with the gum side against a waxy paper like the envelopes you have for stamps. Let it dry thoroughly whereupon the stamp will peel right off the waxed paper showing a nice clean back.

This will take some practice, so work on cheap stamps first before you tackle some of your better items. This method was shown to me by one of our former members and one of the greatest Czech dealers ever, Arthur I. Kessler.

I personally don't like the commercial sweatboxes because many times they tend to stain the perfs or the edges of the stamps. I'm sure there is a trick to using the sweatboxes also. Use a good peelable hinge and always be sure to lightly moisten. It will peel off without hardly leaving a trace.

FROM THE EDITOR'S STOCK BOOK

We are always pleased to hear from our Charter Members - and Mr. Hartley Smith, #15 of 134 Summit St., Findlay, Ohio is surely one of them. Mr. Smith writes that due to failing eyesight he has sold his collection - a decision he found very hard to make. But he is keeping up his membership in the SOCIETY, enjoys the SPECIALIST (read to him by Mrs. Hartley) and enjoys hearing from us. A belated Happy New Year to you and yours - from all of us!

E. Skovbo Jensen of Eskilstrup, Denamard has sent us some fine philatelic questions. Please be patient Skovbo! - the very difficult questions are always answered right away - but the kind you sent us will take a little while (to paraphrase an old quip).

One never knows what the BOHEMOSOLVENIA enthusiasts will come up with next. Why does the stamp shown below belong in your collection? No, the illustrated lady does not own a poodle born in Zizkov - but the artist whose name appears on the bottom right of the stamp is Miroslava Treska of Czechoslovakia - and she is probably the first to put a diacritical mark on a stamp of Ethopia.



Commemorative Postage Stamps

"Art on Stamps"

The tradition of issuing a set of commemorative stamps depicting works of art is one of such long standing that persons interested in these stamps know that the arrival of autumn brings with it the issue of a further such set. The selection from outstanding works by native as well as world artists is always interesting and attractive not only as regards subject matter but also by virtue of the traditional execution in large format. These are beautiful, miniature graphic sheets and welcome additions to collections.

The 1979 "Art" set comprising five stamps and five First Day Covers presents the works of three Czechoslovak artists and two of other nationalities.

The first stamp is dedicated to the Czech painter Alois Moravec, born in 1899 and pupil of the famed Max Svabinsky, who himself also designed many Czechoslovak stamps. Alois Moravec is a painter, graphic artist and book illustrator who devotes much of his work to the picturesque South Bohemian countryside as well as Prague and its environs. This is the first time it appears in stamp form. The 1.60 Kcs stamp shows his "Sunday by the River" executed in 1966 and the property of the National Gallery in Prague. The cachet on the First Day Cover issued with this stamp shows his "Mother" executed in 1965.

The second stamp, with a face value of 2 Kcs, presents the work of the Slovak painter Gustav Mally (1879 — 1952). Selected for depiction is his "Self-Portrait" executed in 1924 and property of the Slovak National Gallery. Gustav Mally, an impressionsist painter, found inspiration chiefly in a Slovak village. In the years 1911 to 1932 he headed an important school of painting in Bratislava, a school which he founded. Issued with the stamp is a First Day Cover with cachet depicting his picture of a child executed in 1944 and entitled "Sweetheart."

The third stamp is dedicated to a leading representation of the Russian realistic art of the nineteenth century — to Ilia Yefimewich Repin (1844 — 1930). Depicted on the stamp, which has a face value of 3 Kcs, is his self-portrait executed in 1915 and now the property of the National Gallery of Prague. The cachet on the First Day Cover issued with this stamp shows a portrait of Repin's mother executed in 1867.

The fourth, 3.60 Kcs stamp, is dedicated to the prominent Czech artist Jan Bauch. His work had appeared in stamp form before — on the 1.40 Kcs stamp of the "New Prague" set issued on the occasion of the PRAGA 1968 World Stamp Exhibition. Depicted on that stamp was his tapestry "The Estates Theatre", one of four tapestries dedicated to Mozart's stay in Prague. Jan Bauch is a professor at Prague's Academy of Applied Art. Selected for depiction on the present stamp is his "Horseback Rider" executed in 1977 and now housed in the National Gallery in Prague. The cachet on the First Day Cover issued with this stamp shows his "Nude" executed in 1978.

The picture presented on the fifth stamp, which as a face value of 5 Kcs, is by a painter whose work has likewise appeared on Czechoslovak stamps before — namely Albrecht Durer (1471 — 1528). Selected for depiction in this set is a picture of his "Village Dancers" executed in 1514 and housed in the National Gallery in Prague. The cachet on the First Day Cover shows his "Bag-piper", executed in the same year. Albrecht Durer was a painter, graphic artist, engraver, and art theoretician. He figures prominantly in the history of European painting. As a painter and graphic artist he created a

unique ceuvre, one that is technically perfect and embraces a great many forms of expression.

The five stamps of the "Art" set, together with the five First Day Covers, present an interesting view of Czechoslovak and world art spanning the period from the fifteenth century to the present day. In our admiration of the beauty of the pictures, however. we should not omit to take note of the engravers responsible for their transcription to stamp forms; Bedrich Housa, Jan Mracek, Milos Ondracek and Jindra Schmidt. The finished small steel plates that left their studios for the printer's have yielded their fruit in the form of the traditional "Art" set bearing the date 1979.

On the 27 November 1979 the Federal Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Czechoslovakia is issuing a set of commemoratives entitled "Art on Stamps" and comprising the following five stamps:

- 1.60 Kcs Sunday by the River 1966 (detail) Alois Moravec 1899. National Gallery in Prague, Engraved by Milos Ondracek. Colors: black, red, yellow, blue.
- 2 Kcs Self-portrait 1924 Gustav Mally 1879 1952. Slovak National Gallery, Engraved by Jan Mracek. Colors: black, yellow, red, green.
- 3 Kcs Self-portrait 1915 Ilia Yefimovich Repin 1844 1930. National Gallery in Prague, Engraved by Milos Ondracek. Colors: black, yellow, red, blue, green.
- 3.60 Kcs Horseback Rider 1977 Jan Bauch 1898. National Gallery in Prague, Engraved by Jindra Schmidt. Colors: black, yellow, blue, red. violet.
- 5 Kcs Village Dancers 1514 Albrecht Durer 1471 1528. National Gallery in Prague, Engraved by Bedrich Housa. Colors: black with ochre ground color.

The graphic design is by the respective engravers.

The set was printed by multicolor flat recess print at the Post Printing Office in Prague. One stamp sheet comprises 4 stamps measuring 40 x 50 mm

Issued with the set are five First Day Covers, one for each stamp, with cachets depicting a further picture by the respective artist.

LET's GROW! Enlist a fellow Czecho collector to join our Society. Application forms are available from the Secretary or the Editorial Office.

SELL — SWAP — WANT

- WANTED All Scandinavian material, stamps, covers, stationary. Buy or trade against Czechoslovakia, Europe, George B. Koplowitz, Box 183, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218.
- WANTED Imperial Germany Navy mail, covers and cards up to the end of WW I. Wolfgang Fritzsche, P.O. Box 8, Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424.
- WANTED Agriculture and Science. Essays, printing trials, blocks, printing and perforation defects. Describe and price. O. Kutvirt, 5 Pool N.W., Albuquerque, N.M. 87120.
- SWAP U.S. collector in Czechoslovakia looking for exchange partner: Ing. Zdenek Modlitba, Zizkova 7, 682 01 Vyskov na Morave

1980 SCOTT'S INCREASES 32% OF CZECH ISSUES

by Edwin W. Lehecka, SCP

A review of Scott's 1980 catalog Volume II indicates that some one third of the 2700 major varieties of Czech and related issues experienced valuation increases over 1979 levels. In general, the almost 900 increases were heavily concentrated in more modern issues with higher values and used varieties predominating. Nine reductions in value were noted.

The regular and commemorative issues of the First Republic remained almost unchanged from 1979. Only 8 increases out of 226 stamps were found. These were in the Masaryk issues and the 1939 Stefanik issue which increased to \$9.00 mint and \$10.00 used. The National Anthem souvenir sheets showed a 20% increase with the 1k. going from \$140 to \$175 and the 2k. from \$500 to \$600 in value.

The semi-postal "Posta" overprints showed 28 increases and continue to be the highest valued Czech stamps. B-24 continues as the leader, its \$8,000 mint valuation unchanged, but now is also listed as \$8,000 used. This listing was blank in 1979. Likewise is B-25, now listed at \$6,500 either mint or used, the former unchanged.

Major increases in this group were B18A from \$1,750 to \$2,250, B-40 from \$2,000 to \$2,500 and B-97 from \$1,750 to \$2,250. Early Airpost issues had upward changes in the minor perforation varieties. C6a increased from \$175 to \$225 and remains the highest valued airmail issue. The Siberian Legion Post issues all remained unchanged.

Turning to the more recent issues, the early post-war years (1945-1948) were relatively quiet with only some 14 increases out of 128 issues. The Red Army Souvenir Sheet and the Clasped Hands issue appreciated modestly.

The greatest number of increases took place in the issues of the early Communist period (1949-1955). Of the 354 stamps issued during this period, 73% or 260, increased in value. Used increases outnumbered mint, very often doubling in value, and a greater used parity with mint was established. Generally only the commonest or lowest values failed to increase.

The most recent issues, covering the period 1956 to the present, showed less activity with 35% or 500 of the 1,412 issues represented having increases. Mint values were more heavily represented as were many of the Paintings issues and souvenir sheets.

Only 2 varieties of the 180 issues of Bohemia-Moravia experienced increases. This followed the pattern of the First Republic and other early issues which remained largely unchanged. Slovakia had somewhat more activity with 24% of major listings showing valuation increases. These were mostly in the 1939 Hlinka issues and in the postage dues. The 1939 postage dues issue (J 1-12) increased from 52.35 to 57.05 in mint condition but used doubled in value from 11.35 to 22.00 for the set.

In summary, Czech issues continue to show a respectable rate of increase, particularly in the high value items. A 20% annual increase in the better stamps was fairly common. The 1980 catalog increases also tended to favor used over mint, bringing the former closer in line.

SHARE WITH YOUR FELLOW-COLLECTORS — be it KNOWLEDGE or IGNORANCE. Manuscripts, particularly those bearing the fruits of your philatelic studies, as well as questions should be addressed to the Editorial Offices.

BOOK REPORT: — "Second Volume of Postal History of Southern Bohemia", Pisek, 1979

Good things often come in small packages. And so it is with the 86-page soft bound book, sub-titled "200 Years of the Post in Pisek", published on occasion of this anniversary, which coincided with the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Philatelic Club in Pisek — both anniversaries having been celebrated by an exhibit of stamps and postal documentation.

The book itself is the work of Czechoslovakia's most prominent collectors and postal historians. It is profusely illustrated and most artfully presented by Vaclav Konstant, noted Pisek postal historian, assisted by B. Novotny. The publishers are the DE PISEK 79 show committee. Foremost among the contributors is Jaroslav Jezek who takes a serious look at picture post card collecting as yet another aspect of philately and postal history. A somewhat less known writer among postal history buffs in Axelandra Spiritova, whose chapter entitled "Pisek's Hereditary Postmasters" traces the individuals who served in this capacity, as well as the entire system and locations of postal facilities in Pisek. Southern Bohemia's postal system between 1526 and 1620 is covered by Ing. Miroslav Polisensky, whose authoritative chapter relies to a great extent on foreign sources.

Pisek's postal markings were studied extensively and published in the First Volume of Postal History of Southern Bohemia¹. This time Ing. Emil Votocek describes the postal markings of the Prachen region from 1919 to 1939 in a comprehensive manner, reminiscent of his monumental effort in Monografie, vol. XIII and XIV.

Jiri Nekvasil presents a brief postal history of the Sumava region, with illustrations of the earliest markings. A chapter by Ing. Vladimir Prikasny covers the immediate post 1945 period, while Jan Masek in another chapter discusses the nationality, i.e. language problems on postal markings during the Austro-Hungarian period. Ing. Vladimir Feldman presents a study of postal stations (postovny) in the County of Cesky Krumlov, while Dr. Vratislav Palkoska brings this fine collection to a close with a comprehensive chapter on censorship with a good selection of illustrated early censorship markings.

The love of postal history comes naturally to the members of the Club of Czech Collectors in Pisek. Why? They are fortunate to have a lovely little postal museum, which opened its doors in 1974². In addition they have an industrious student of local postal history in Mr. Vaclav Konstant. Our readers will be glad to know that the Pisek museum has been receiving the SPECIALIST since its founding as a small token of our esteem. Recently the SOCIETY has received a complimentary small number of copies of the above book, each with show souvenir, which will be sold on a "first come" basis. (See FOR SALE THROUGH THE SPECIALIST in the issue). A single copy of a book entitled "The Castle of Pisek" by J. Kuthan was also received from Pisek and is being placed in our Library.

Henry Hahn

- 1. Published by the same organization in Pisek in 1972.
- See the SPECIALIST issue of November 1974, "Mini-Museum of Postal History in Southern Bohemia", by Jaroslav Jezek, p. 137-140.

LIBRARY — The finest collection of Czecho philatelic literature is at your fingertips. Contact the librarian by mail (see masthead) for index of books and rules of our mail borrowing service.

BOOK REVUE: Third Volume of Monografie Issued

by J. J. Verner, SCP

After a series of postponements, caused largely by production problems delays, the Third volume of Monografie Ceskoslovenskych znamek has finally been published. This volume covers the stamps of the 1923-1929 period, as well as the postal paper used in the same time frame. The authors of the first part of the volume are Jan Karasek and Frantisek Zampach. Jaroslav Papousek wrote the section of postal paper which covers the last 108 pages of this 430 page book. As with the other volumes of Monografie, this volume is printed on chalk paper and profusely illustrated, though some of the illustrations are not quite as clear as I would have expected. The usefulness of this volume will be somewhat reduced for foreign collectors of Czechoslovak stamps by the fact that there are no foreign language summaries.

The stamps are presented in sequence of issue, with each issue clearly treated as a seperate unit. Within each unit the treatment is uniform in format, though not always in the amount of detail presented on any given stamp. This difference is obviously due to the varying amounts of material available on the various issues. As any collector knows, much more collatoral material has been preserved for some issues than for others. The units are broken down into the following sections: Origins of the stamp (including artists renditions); Printing of the stamp (including printing methods used, paper, perforations); Production errors/flaws; Other errors/flaws; Unissued stamps and trial printings (includes proofs and essays); and finally postal use and special or commemorative cancellations.

A postal rate table begins the postal paper section. The author's systematic treatment of postal paper issued in the period 1925-1939 gives the reader rather complete production information. Professor Papousek frequently resorts to tables to list the larger issues of commemorative postal cards. These tables supply considerable information, but must be used with the legend appearing at the beginning of the section. The system used in the tables might have been a bit simpler, but it does have the advantage of being consistent throughout the entire section.

And for those who like that sort of thing, the volume also contains a numbered "black print" of the 40 heller stamp from the 10th Anniversary issue. Personally I object to the production of these "black prints," even though they are apparently very popular with collectors in Czechoslovakia. When I recently asked an official of the Union of Czechoslovak Philatelists about the practice of placing such numbered "black prints" into publications and catalogs as an incentive for collectors to purchase, he replied that it boosted the sales of the publications. Those of us who were at Praga 78 remember well the extremely long lines for the publications that were available and how difficult it was to get them. If the official is to be believed, all these people were buying the publications not because they were interested in their content, but because they thought they might make a profit on the enclosed "black print." Perhaps, but I doubt it. My objection to this practice is basically that it is first and formost aimed at extracting still more money from collectors — and this in a country that already issues more stamps each year than it can reasonably justify by need.

Unfortunately I have not yet had the opportunity to go through this volume in detail to check for completeness and accuracy of the information contained in the text. But first impressions are very positive. This volume of the Monografie is an important addition to the literature on Czechoslovak philately. The authors are to be complimented on their fine work. It is hoped

that the larger project that this series represents will move forward with a bit more energy with the successful completion of this volume. The first volume of this projected 15 volume series was published just 11 years ago to coincide with Praga 68. Since then only 4 other volumes have been completed (1, 2, 3, 13 and 14). Let us hope the work on the remaining volumes speeds up so that we can all still savor the results of this ambitious project.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Lou Svoboda

Dear Lou:

I have recently bought some Sudetenland overprints including KON-STANTINOVY LAZNE. In the Purkyne set the coupon of the 1Kc value is not overprinted, whereas the coupon of the 50h is overprinted, though the overprint is out of position as shown. Since the overprint was applied by typography, how can both the absence (or presence) as well as the skewness of the overprint be explained? If the typography "plate" was used to overprint one stamp at a time, then which is the more common; the overprinted or un-overprinted coupon?





My second question concerns the MORAVSKA OSTRAVA issue, which appears to be expertized by "Cermak". Can you give me any particulars on this name? I know that the more common expertizers are Dr. J. H. Horr, Dr. E. Dub and more recently Mr. Max Mahr.

Dear Henry:

Not knowing the answers to either of your questions, I'm hoping some of our readers will provide the answers.

SPECIALIST Advertising Rates

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Quarter page	8.50	24.00	37.50	69.00
Eighth page	5.75	16.00	26.00	49.00

PUBLIC MINI AUCTION #2

Auction — Sunday, May 18, 1980 — 3:00 P.M.

Land of Lincoln Savings Building 6655 W. Cermak Rd., Berwyn, IL 60402

Send bids to:

Charley Chesloe 8300 So. Wolf Road Willow Springs, IL 60480 U.S.A.

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	Czecho
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