

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



(USPS 808300)

Official Monthly Journal of the

Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

Silver Award Interphil '76 — Silver Award Capex '78 — Silver-Bronze Praga '78

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXXII

March, 1980

No. 3, Whole No. 398

Hahn Elected President

Henry Hahn was elected President of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately for a two-year term at the meeting of the Board of Directors in Fairfax, Virginia, on January 12, 1980. Henry served a previous term as President in 1976 and 1977. Other officers elected were Edward J. Sabol, Secretary; Charles R. Collins, Treasurer (both reelected to these offices) and Richard M. Major, Vice President.



Chuck Collins, Mirko Vondra, Dominick Riccio, Henry Hahn, Jane Sterba, Ed Lehecka, Dick Major, Lou Svoboda

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$2762.01 in the treasury of the Society as of December 31, in addition to \$478.83 in the Specialist Book Sales account. Because of rising costs, especially in regard to the Specialist, it was voted to raise the Society dues effective January 1, 1981, to \$10.00 for regular members, \$20.00 per patron members, while the youth membership dues remain at \$3.00. New advertising rates for the Specialist were also approved to take effect March 1, 1980.

President Hahn appointed Dick Major to succeed him as Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Specialist with Ludvik Svoboda as Vice Chairman. He also reappointed Jay Carrigan as Librarian, Wolfgang Fritsche as Manager of the Sales Circuit and Edwin W. Lehecka as Chairman of the Expertizing Committee. Ludvik Svoboda was also named Chairman for the 1980 Annual Convention to be held in connection with BALPEX August 30 through September 1 (see story on BALPEX this issue).

Since special publications by the Society have been well received in the past it was decided that the following publication projects should be initiated:

1. An up-to-date Czech-English philatelic dictionary to replace the one long out of print, to be combined with a cross-reference listing of catalogue numbers for the stamps of Czechoslovakia to include the numbers of such well-known catalogues as Scott, Minkus, Pofis, Michel, Yvert and Zumstein. This project will be headed by Mirko Vondra and Chuck Collins.

2. An up-dating of the index to the Specialist to include those issues since the last index made in 1973. Ann Vondra will undertake this project.

3. Translation of the Novotny Handbook into English, to be published in installments in the Specialist. This project will be directed by Dominick Riccio. All members who are willing to assist with any of these projects are asked to get in touch with the project leaders.

A special vote of appreciation was voted to outgoing President Jane Sterba, outgoing Vice President George Koplowitz and the outgoing directors: Dr. L. V. Fischmeister, Richard Gray, Jaroslav Verner and Henry Samek for their service to the furtherance of our Society.

A copy of the minutes of the meeting may be obtained by any member by sending a SASE to Ludvik Svoboda, 9102 Rural Plains Place, Springfield, VA 22153, who was acting secretary for the meeting.

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"Prague - Morocco - Prague"

1930 Parcel Takes a Round Trip Journey

by Bretislav Janik, SCP

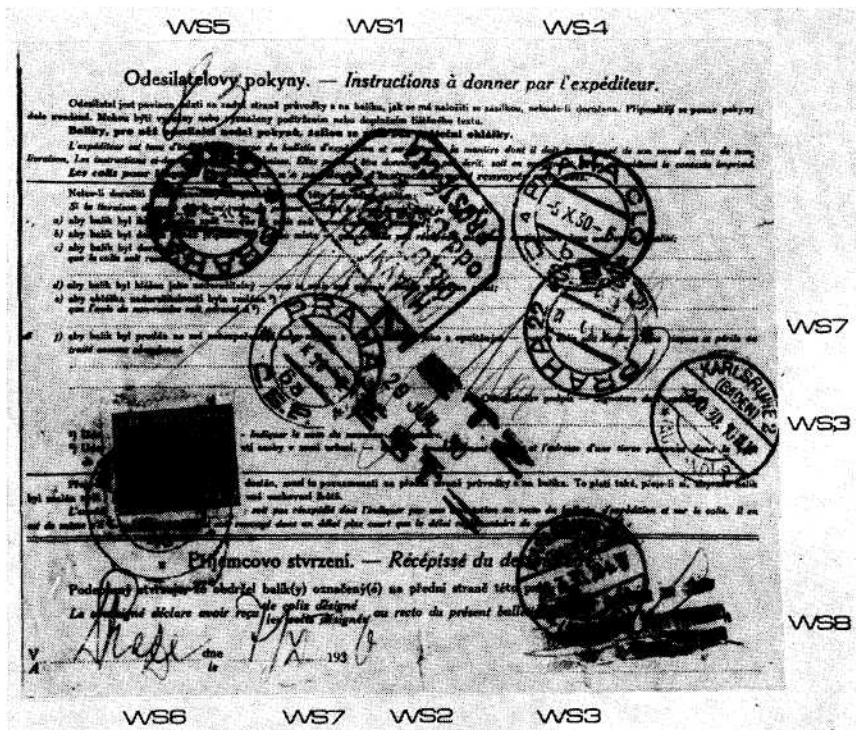
Translator's Note: Have you ever wondered how those revenue stamped parcel dispatch forms were used? Or why no postage stamps were used to pre-pay international parcels? This piece of research by one of our youngest authors from Brno, Czechoslovakia answers these and many other questions pertaining to international parcel post in the thirties. (H.H.)

While rummaging through a fellow collector's stock at a bourse about a year ago, my eye caught a postal dispatch form card with imprinted revenue stamp used for international parcel service in 1930. The form, having traveled through the mails for a full seventy calendar days, appeared to illustrate some features characteristic of international parcel post service of that period. That led me to trace its full travel itinerary. I owe a major part of my findings, particularly with respect to means of transportation and postal routes of contemporary Germany, France and Morocco to Mr. Svatopluk Zampach.*

* Noted philatelist and philatelic author, residing in Brno, Czechoslovakia

The image shows a detailed view of a 1930 Czechoslovakian parcel dispatch form. The form is titled "POŠTOVNÍ PRŮVODKA - BULLETIN D'EXPÉDITION". It contains several sections with handwritten entries and official stamps. At the top left, the number "1079" is written in a box. Below it, the sender's name "Ceskoslovensko" is printed. The declared value is "Kč 1152" and the weight is "5 kg". The recipient's name "Compagnie Algérienne" is written. There are several circular and rectangular stamps, including one from "K. A. H. ROUEN" dated "26. 7. 30. 6-1 N" and another from "K. A. H. ISLAND". Handwritten numbers "10074", "10458", and "9530" are scattered across the form. The form is annotated with reference markers RS1 through RS8.

The form used for international parcel dispatch bears a Czech-French-text. It was initiated (i.e. filled out) on the 24th of July, 1930 at 8 a.m. and received the dispatch number 1076 (Fig. 1, RS 2) at the PRAGUE 24 post office, where it was post marked (RS 1). The imprinted 50h revenue stamp (RS 3) was canceled with the regular post mark (same as RS 1) which was applied the same day. The object of the dispatch was a box valued at 1,152 Kc. In accordance with the regulations of the International Postal Union, this value was also expressed as 164.58 gold francs. Due to its value, the adhesive label "V" (black on white background) was applied (RS 4). The sender paid in accordance with its weight (9.50 kg) — 41.65 Kc plus insurance of 3.50 Kc in addition to a so-called "expediting fee" of 2.50 Kc — i.e. a total of 47.65 Kc. Proof of payment is the post mark itself in the space marked "Dispatch Post Mark" (RS 1) rather than stamps, which at that time were not used for prepayment of international parcel mail. The destination of the shipment was the port of Mazagan in Morocco.



From the PRAGUE 24 post office the shipment was transferred to the main customs office in Prague (Fig. 2, WS 1) which passed it as "free of duty" and routed it by train to the border post office of CHEB 2. The latter was the departure post office for Germany and for mail passing through Germany, as shown by the direction label (RS 5). The shipment was transferred at the railroad postal station KARLSRUHE 2 in the State of Baden, Germany on July 26, 1930, between the hours of 6 and 7 p.m. (RS 6). The international window of this post office applied the marking "AUSLAND", i.e. "ABROAD" in the lower portion of the marking and passed the shipment

on to the postal railway car, i.e. ambulatory postal station Karlsruhe — Strasburg — Metz in Alsace, France. The collection and transit post office in Metz applied the marking (WS 2) directing the shipment east, i.e. "EST". From there it is presumed to have been forwarded by rail to a "TRAMP" steamer, which generally traveled along the coast touching many ports, arriving on the 15th of September at the Moroccan Atlantic port of Mazagan (RS 7). In accordance with local regulations the shipment was charged 10 centimes "manipulation fee" as evidenced by the Moroccan revenue stamp (RS 8).

It is difficult to determine why the shipment could not have been delivered to the addressee, since the form bears no such notation. The fact is that the box was to be returned to Prague.

The heavy blue pencil notation reads "Non Reclame — Retour" (Undeliverable — Return) and the original delivery address is crossed out. At the main post office in Casablanca the form was post marked with a red "return" marking (RS 9), and was dispatched on its return journey. Hence again by steamer and train to Metz (without post mark) and thence to Karlsruhe, where it was post marked on October 2nd between 10 and 11 a.m. (WS 3). On October 5th at 6 a.m. the shipment was received at the PRAGUE — CUSTOMS postal station (WS 4) where it was again processed and transferred on October 7th, 1930 to the PRAGUE 22 post office, window 7a (WS 5), which in turn transferred the shipment to the care of the clerk at window 4b, who applied a 50h postage due stamp (Scott J63) which he canceled. On the same day the shipment was delivered by the first parcel post dispatch, post marked 6a (WS 7) and delivered to the originator at 12 noon as "undeliverable". Receipt of the shipment was confirmed by the signature and rubber stamp (of the firm) . . . Hermann, factory for the manufacture of shoes (WS 8).

Thus ended the trail of the box from Central Europe to North Africa and back. The trail of the dispatch form would have ended as postal scrap (since it had to be surrendered) and hence would have met its demise, particularly since it was stampless, except for a person, somewhere along the line, with an eye to collecting. Yet, though this item tells a long and arduous story, its renaissance had to wait until now, when it has become a valued source of information for today's generation of postal history buffs.

POSTAL COVERS

MAIL BID SALES

Always interesting Czechoslovak Postal History covers

For catalog, send \$1.00 to:

THEO VAN DAM, Box 26C, Brewster, NY 10509

SELL — SWAP — WANT

WANTED — Czech sports and olympics covers, cards, postmarks, Sokol cards (mint.used. All pre-1940). David Fogel, 2435 N. Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614.

SELL — Mint Czech Scott #B45, VF, small piece of hinge. Expertized by Vaclav Vanik. \$225.00. Maurice LaBrie, 9554 Telegraph Road, #2, Downey, CA 90240.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S STOCK BOOK by Henry Hahn

When our Society's Board met last January 12th, my foremost impression was one of complete confidence. Looking around the conference table I saw our former presidents Jane Sterba and Mirko Vondra who made it seem like "old home week". Re-election by the Board of our Secretary Ed Sabol and Treasurer, Chuck Collins, old pros at their respective games, insures that the Society's vital functions will not suffer at the start of the new administration. The election of Dick Major as Vice President and his acceptance of the editorship of the SPECIALIST gives us a big break in many ways. Not only is he a top notch collector, postal historian and gold-class exhibitor, but he is also my close neighbor. We then have a fine former editor on the Board to tap in the person of Dom Riccio, a real old timer and former Treasurer Joe Stein, as well as a good measure of "new blood" in Ed Lehecka and Lou Svoboda.

I appreciate this new Board's confidence in electing me to a second stint as President of our Society. We started our two-year term by having the best attended Board meeting in the Society's history and by working through a long agenda of items that will insure continued vitality and growth of our Society.

Elsewhere in this issue you will read about special projects and committees which require membership participation to succeed. Please volunteer your services — most of these activities, particularly the literary ones, are extremely rewarding. Lastly, we need your ideas, comments and criticism to be of best possible service Society.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS — by Ludvik Svoboda

First, an administrative matter. I forgot to follow my own ground rules and thus neglected to number the first two questions/answers that have appeared. Therefore, the Jan. 80 question/answer will become Q1/A1 and the Feb. 80 is Q2/A2.

If you have any responses to previously published Q/A's, please frame them with respect to their appropriate number.

Q3: Andrei Vlasov of the Russian Liberation Army of German backing (majority of whose forces were of Byelorussian nationality) entered Prague on May 7, 1945. The Soviet forces entered on May 12, 1945 (commemorated on CSSR stamps). Did the Czechs issue and use any locals immediately after the May 7th liberation?

A3: As far as I can determine there were no official locals issued by the provisional government, Narodny Vybor. However, there were many unofficial issues put out not only during the period you mention but even shortly before. As best as I can determine they had no direct connection with Andrei Vlasov. One thing does seem to be evident however, these issues were primitively done, their true history is vague, and as result counterfeits were produced well after the period. Can anyone shed any light on an authoritative text of discussion of this subject? **HELP!** Write to: Ludvik Svoboda, 9102 Rural Plains Place, Springfield, VA 22153.

BALPEX '80

by Ludvik Svoboda

Plans for our annual convention, to be held at BALPEX '80, are firming up. Our new President, Henry Hahn, and I attended the 22 January 80 meeting of the Baltimore Philatelic Society (BPS) to obtain and discuss the necessary particulars. The following expanded and new information was collected:

- We must man a Society table during the official hours the show is open. This will be done on a volunteer, scheduled basis and is primarily intended to provide information about our Society, membership applications, and Czech philatelic publications sales.
- The official prospectus will be available about the end of February. Our intent is to publish it as a centerpiece in the April Specialist. A word of caution — although the prospectus will say that the close-out date for application submission is 1 August, if you wait that long you will be out of luck. The prospectus also states "Subject to prior sell-out." Last year that occurred about 1 June — so get your applications in early.
- We have a verbal commitment from BPS that up to 100 frames will be available to us. At BALPEX '77 we used 86 frames. Let's see if we can't better that previous record. We are especially desirous of seeing frames from new members or those that have not displayed before. The fee per frame will remain at \$6.
- The admission fee will be \$4 for 3 days or \$2/day, with senior citizens and children at 50c/day.
- Besides our own restricted awards, BPS will provide 5 levels of open class awards — gold, vermeil, silver, silver-bronze, and bronze. All awards will be presented at the BALPEX awards banquet (scheduled for Sunday night) since two of the show judges will be Society members — Henry Hahn and George Blizil.
- The show catalog will contain a brief description of our Society and a feature article on our theme for our annual convention — "60 Years of Czech Airmails." This will also be the theme of the cachet and postmark which is being developed by Dick Major.
- We will have a seminar on Czech philately open to the public and featuring several guest speakers with slide shows. More on the exact details here later. BPS will supply the facilities.
- We will hold our annual meeting and board of directors meeting. BPS will supply the facilities.
- We will host a banquet of our own on Saturday night. The last one we held there was excellent — both in service and quality of food. Well, I am very happy to report that we have the same Garden Room already reserved for this year.
- A future Specialist will contain a pre-addressed return form or card that will collect information such as:
 - do you need rooms at the Hunt Valley Inn
 - how long will you need the rooms

- how many people will attend (room distribution)
 - when can you assist with the Society table
 - will you be exhibiting frames of material
 - will you be attending the banquet (BALPEX and/or Czech)
- If you submit a prospectus application or form (above), **PLEASE** send them to me — in this way the Society can officially notify BPS as to how many frames, room, etc., are necessary. I assure you that I will forward your applications and requests to BPS immediately. I just have to record the information on a form so that our records correspond with what BPS and Hunt Valley Inn billing records show.
- There will be at least two dealers at the bourse who have extensive Czech philatelic material.
-

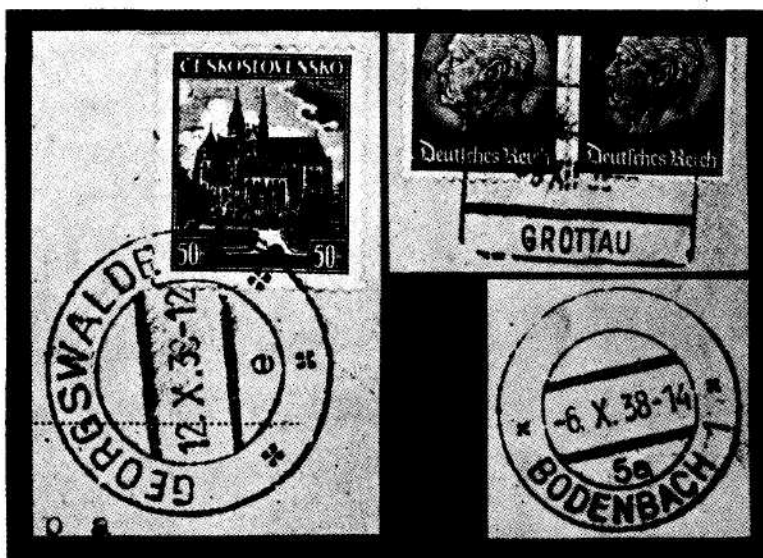
K. F. Pesak

CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAL CANCELLATIONS DURING NAZI OCCUPATION

Certain difficulties arose during the evacuation of post offices and their Czech employees into the interior in the autumn of 1938. Where the Postmaster and the majority of employees were German the evacuees were prevented from taking the marking devices and valuables of the post office. In numerous post offices in the land torn out of the Czechoslovak Republic by the Nazis the use of former postmarks continued, of course after removal of the Czech text or legend. In a few offices only the unaltered Czechoslovak postmarks remained in use with both the Czech and German name of the office or town remaining. As a rule the upper half of the space for the office name remained blank, and only in the case of Zelena Hora — Tisova/Grunberg-Eichenberg was the Czech text filled in, or in two instances replaced with the Nazi swastika (Podmokly — Bedenbach, and Ervenice — Seestadt).

During the First Republic there were numerous localities for which even after twenty years we did not attempt to find names in Czech, as for example Georgswalde, Reichsdorf, several Schonbachs, Pleil-Sorgenthal etc. The postmarks for these offices were used by the Germans without interruption or change if the name of the office was in the upper half of the device, or after the removal of the name from the lower half of the circle in case of postmarks where the spelling of the name in both the upper and lower half was identical. But in the case of the postmark for Harta the occupying forces actually adopted the Czech name when they let the name Harta stay in the upper half of the circle and removed the identical spelling of the town from the lower half. Presumably several instances of such inadvertent "Germanization" of the town's name are in existence, if collectors would only search for them and report their discoveries. After all, this is a matter of our postmarks being used on Czechoslovak soil temporarily occupied by fascist intruders.

We are of the opinion that it is about time to scrutinize thoroughly all historically important postal events of the era. Future generations of philatelists need not poke through archives for necessary information. I endeavored to list Czechoslovak post offices in which the Czechoslovak postmarks were used by the Germans for a definite period of time after removal of the Czech name of town. Only devices which were used in cancelling postal material and seen personally by me are listed.



Seals for cancellation of postal matter with the German name only were in use at the following post offices:

Albrechtice u Krnova / Olbersdorf	Doubice / Daubitz
Andelska Hora v Slezsku / Engelsberg	Ervenice / Seestadt
Arnultice / Arnsdorf bei Haida	Falknov nad Ohri / Falkenau an der Eger
As 1, 3 / Asch 1, 3	Filipov / Philippsdorf
Bernartice u Javornika / Barzdorf bei Jauerning	Frantiskovy Lazne 1, 2 / Franzensbad 1, 2
Bily Potok pod Smrkem / Weissbach an der Tafelfichte	Frydberk / Friedeberg
Bohosudov / Mariaschein	Frydlant v Cechach / Friedland in Bohmen
Bor u Tachova / Haid	Fulstejn / Fullstein
Brandov / Brandau	Hanspach / Hainsbach
Branany / Prohn	Harta / Harta
Brumice ve Slezsku / Braunsdorf	Hilluv Mlyn / Hillemuhl
Brezova-Bohdasin / Birkigt Bodisch	Hlubocky / Hombok
Bynov / Bunauburg	Hostka u Litomeric / Gastorf
Cukmantl ve Slezsku / Zuckmantel in Schlesien	Horni Blatna / Bergstadt Platten
Cachovice / Tschachwitz	Horni Pysk / Ober Preschkau
Cervena Voda / Mahrlsch Rothwasser	Hradek nad Nisou / Grottau
Cesky Wiesenthal / Bohmisch Wiesenthal	Hrensko / Herrnskretsch
Decin / Tetschen	Hyncice / Heinzendorf
Dobranov / Dobern	Cheb 1, 2 / Eger 1, 2
Duchcov / Dux	Chodov / Chodau
Dolni Holcovice / Nieder Hillersdorf	Jablonec nad Nisou / Gablonz an der Neise
Dolni Grunt u Varnsdorfu / Nieder Grund bei Warnsdorf	Janov u Jindrichova / Johannesthal bei Henndorf
Dolni Poustevna / Einsiedel	Javornik / Jauerning
Dolni Rychnov / Unter Reichenau	Jetrichov u Mezimesti / Dittersbach bei Halbstadt
Drmoul / Durrrmaul	

Jindrichov ve Slezsku / Hennersdorf in Schlesien	Ruprechtice / Ruppertsdorf
Jistebnik nad Odrou / Stiebnig	Rybare 1, 2 / Fischern 1, 2
Karlovy Vary 1 / Karlsbad 1	Rybniste / Teichstadt
Klaster Tepla / Tepl Stift	Schonbach u Chebu / Schonbach bei Eger
Klasterec nad Ohri / Klosterle an der Eger	Schonbach u Rumburka / Schonbach bei Rumburg
Konstantinovy Lazne / Konstantinsbad	Skrochovice — Skrochowitz
Krasna Lipa u Rumburka / Schon- linde	Stanovice / Danowitz
Krnov / Jagerndorf	Stara Cervena voda / Alt Rothwasser
Kutlberk / Kuttelberg	Stary Ehrenberg / Alt Ehrenberg
Liberec / Reichenberg	Stary Kynperk / Alt Kinsberg
Libstejn / Liebenstein	Suchdol nad Odrou / Zauchtel
Liptan / Liebenthal	Supikovice / Saubsdorf
Litomerice / Leitmeritz	Svitavy / Zwittau
Marianske Lazne / Marienbad	Stuknov / Schluckenau
Marsov / Marschendorf	Sternberk 1 / Sternberg 1
Mikulasovice 1 / Nixdorf 1	Sumperk / Mahrtsch Schonberg
Mikulovice ve Slezsku / Niklasdorf	Tachov / Tachau
Mistrovice / Meisterdorf	Teplice nad Metuji / Weckelsdorf
Mnichov u Mar. Lazni / Einsiedel bei Marienbad	Teplice Sanov / Teplitz Schonau
Modra u Podmokel / Riegersdorf	Trutnov / Trautenau
Moravska Trebova / Mahrtsch Trubau	Tremesna ve Slezsku / Rowersdorf
Nemecka Lodenice / Deutsch Lodenitz	Usti nad Labem 2 / Aussig 2
Nove Sedlo u Lokte / Neusattel bei Elbogen	Usovice / Auschwitz
Novosedlice / Weisskirchlitz	Valkerice / Algersdorf
Ondrejovice / Endersdorf	Varnsdorf 1, 2 / Warnsdorf 1, 2
Opava / Troppau	Vejprty / Weipert
Osoblaha / Hotzenplotz	Veletin / Weletin
Ostrov u Karlovyh Varu / Schlack- enwerth	Velka Upa / Gross Aupa
Perstejn / Purstein	Velka Ves u Broumova / Grossdorf bei Braunau
Plana u Marianskyh Lazni / Plan bei Marienbad	Velky Senov / Gross Schonau
Plesna 1, 2 / Fleissen 1, 2	Vidnava / Weidenau
Podmokly 1 / Bodenbach 1	Vildstejn / Wildstein
Polevsko / Blottendorf	Vojtanov / Voitiersreuth
Razova / Raase	Vrbno ve Slezsku / Wurbenthal
Rossbach / Rossbach	Zahrady u Rumburka / Garten
Rumburk 1, 2 / Rumburg 1, 2	Zelena Hora-Tisova / Grunberg-Eiben- berg
	Znojmo / Znaim
	Zlutice / Luditz

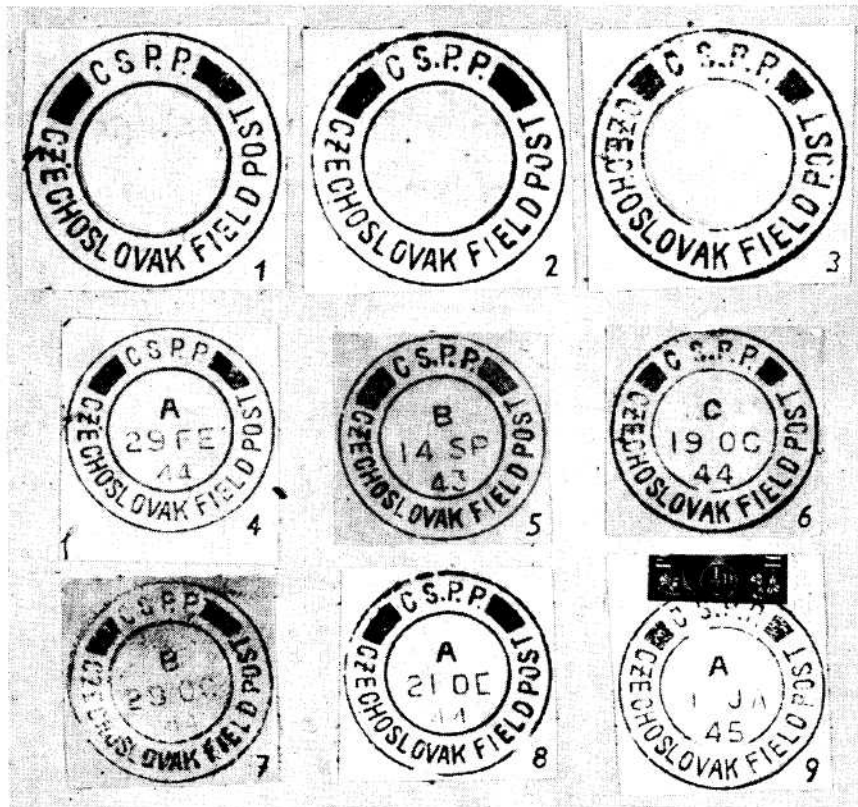
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K. F. Pesak

POSTMARKS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST IN ENGLAND AND THEIR VARIETIES

The postmarks of the Czechoslovak Field Post in England are divided into three groups. Framed markings used from May 28, 1941 to July 23, 1942; postmarks copied from the original "Zborov" commemorative rubber seal used from August 1, 1942 to August 9, 1943; and metal postmarks in use from September 1, 1943 to July 28, 1945.



In this instance we will examine the third group only. These postmarks are in imitation of the British postmarks, consisting of two circular lines enclosing a circular field for date, etc. The stamp is 26.5 mm in diameter. They were issued for use from September 1, 1943. Three types are known by the permanent text of the postmarks, that is the initials "C.S.P.P." between two rectangles on the top and "CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST" in the bottom half of the field formed by the two circles.

Type I: The initials C S P.P. do not have a period following the letter "S." The left hand rectangle appears smaller than the right hand one. Letters "LO" in the word "Czechoslovak" have a wider space between them than the others. (Illust. 1).

Type II: The letters "C.S.P.P." contain a period after the letter "S." The left-hand rectangle is perceptibly larger than the right-hand one, and the letters "OV" in the word "Czechoslovak" are very close. (Illust. 2).

Type III: Rectangles are replaced by squares. It is not necessary to point out any other characteristics. (Illust. 3).

In distinguishing between Type I and Type II in the case of smeared or indistinct impressions some difficulties may arise, therefore it is necessary also to note the date.

With these postmarks, in addition to the removable date lines, the distinguishing initials A, B or C are also removable.

When these postmarks were introduced on September 1, 1943 Type I had the distinguishing letter "A" (Illust. 4). Type II had initial "B" (Illust. 5), and Type III had initial "C" (Illust. 6). All three postmarks were used simultaneously. More on this later.

In July 1944 the initials were changed in Types I and II, so postmark IA became postmark IB (Illust. 7) and postmark IB became IIA (Illustr. 8). Presumably the year was also changed, but this could not be verified positively, Both of these altered postmarks were in use simultaneously.

Type III was used with the letter "C" from its introduction until December 1, 1944. This Type III had also undergone a change in the distinguishing initial at least for one day, because on New Year's greetings of the Czechoslovak Field Post it bears the letter "A". Type IIIC therefore became Type IIIA for at least one day (Illust.9).

My conclusions on the use of the three types is based on a collection of about one hundred letters and cards actually transported by the postal service. On these mailing and arrival postmarks are evenly divided.

Type IA occurs about thirty times on letters with dates from September 1, 1943 to July 3, 1944.

Type IIB occurs fifteen times on covers with dates from September 3, 1943 to March 15, 1944.

Type IIA is most numerous, occurring about fifty times on covers from July 22, 1944 to July 28, 1945.

Type IB was found in six instances with dates from August 1, 1944 to March 20, 1945.

Type IIIC was represented by eight letters with dates from October 28, 1943 to December 19, 1944.

Type IIIA was found only on New Year greetings of the Czechoslovak Field Post dated January 1, 1945 in blue ink.

The color of ink on these dated postmarks normally was black. Only on days of commemoration were the colors red, blue and green used.

DUES ARE PAST DUE

If you still have not paid your 1980 dues, we beseech you to do it NOW! Dues are still only \$7.50 a year for Regular Membership, \$15 for Patron Members and \$3 for Juniors. Dues should be mailed to the Treasurer, Charles R. Collins, 19 Empire Place, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Eng. Antonin Gazda

Where Do They Belong?

A dispute long in existence among philatelists, especially writers and publishers, concerns the proper classification of three issues (Sc 255, 256 and C18) put into use during the turbulent days following the occupation of Bohemia and Moravia by German troops, and the proclamation of an independent Slovakia under the sponsorship of Hitler.

The author of an article published in *Filatelie* of September 24, 1974, Antonin Gazda, points out that it is unrealistic to limit in some manner listing of certain stamps announced in the official *Vestnik* (Bulletin) of the Ministry of Post and to classify them on the strength of such announcement as stamps of Czechoslovakia, or of some component part of the country. There is no information in the *Vestnik* that the issues above mentioned are to be so deemed. Much later, in announcing the devaluation of stamps and their withdrawal, the *Vestnik* declared them as Czechoslovak issues as far as their validity for postal use is concerned in the historic lands.

Neither can we draw any definite conclusion from other methods of evaluation, because in 1939 and later other disputes arose about these issues. Several catalog publishers differed widely in their views, which can be readily ascertained by simply paging through their catalogs covering the era. Newspapers also voiced their views and opinions. It is interesting to note, however, that our views, aired in previous articles, were based on sources of 1939 or shortly afterwards, and newspapers at that time promptly countered with their opinions.

Take for example the franking of a letter in Bohemia with a stamp of Carpatho-Ukraine Sc 1. In 1939 such practice was condemned by the "*Tribuna filatelistu*" (1939, No. 9, p. 144) under the title "Don't manufacture rarities." Even if dozens of letters so franked passed through the post office it should not serve as proof of validity of the stamp in question in the Protectorate. The same situation would arise if someone would use on his letter a stamp long withdrawn and postally worthless, and then naively believe that he had gained a fine and precious rarity. An error made by a post office clerk is no proof of validity.

Reference to postal use and presumed proof of validity would evaporate under the points raised in a *Tribuna* article entitled "Postally used" as follows:

This expression is often used to give individuals, clubs and revolutionary committees publicity, through the laxity of postal clerks, the inappropriate use of stamps, their acceptance and delivery. Such proceedings and claim for postal use were unauthorized. In a flood of postal matter, especially during a period of revolutionary changes, and even under peaceful conditions, envelopes may be postmarked and transmitted even though improperly franked.

STAMPS ISSUED AFTER MARCH 15, 1939

The situation for the issues of stamps became highly complicated after March 15, 1939, especially for the three issues mentioned in the opening paragraph of this article. It does not matter whether the issue was for the entire country, or only for its autonomous part. The stamp officially was issued by Czechoslovakia despite the changing political situation.

Stamp Sc 256 (Czecho-Slovakia, 1 k Masaryk) was issued on April 1, 1939, and Sc C 18 (Czecho-Slovakia, 30 heller violet) on April 22, 1939 according to newspaper articles. There are no reports or announcements of issue in the Vestnik, April 29, 1939 marks the date of an earlier stamp, the 50-heller Plzen, with a slight difference in color. No dispute arose as to the classification of this issue perhaps because of the only slight difference in color in comparison with the original printing.

At present, and logically, Sc 256 and Sc. C 18 are classified as Czechoslovak issues though they appeared after the forcible occupation of the country. Under the same reasoning the Stefanik Sc 255 printing is also a Czechoslovak issue though its postal validity was restricted to Slovakia. There on March 14, 1939 the separatist movement caused the formation of an independent Slovakia. But the original Czechoslovak offices continued in business, and because of scarcity of postal issues the 60-halers Stefanik blue printed in Praha with "Ceskoslovensko" was put into circulation as originally intended for Slovakia only. The stamp was released on March 30, 1939 and was valid for postal use until July 10, 1939. Newspapers and catalogs differ on the date of issue and the quantity printed. The quantity of 25,000 is in error. This was already pointed out in "Slovensky filatelista." Actually 50,000 were printed.

On the same date and in equal quantity the same stamp was issued with an overprint "Slovensky Stat 1939." The overprint clearly indicates that this was not a Czechoslovak issue, and therefore the stamp, with such overprint, cannot be considered as Czechoslovakian. Under the same reasoning Slovak stamps, originally prepared for an autonomous Slovakia within the Czechoslovak Republic, but issued by the so-called independent Slovakia with an overprint can not be considered as part of a Czechoslovak collection. The same rule applies to stamps without the overprint. They were printed but not used in Czecho-Slovakia. It is clear that in a collection of Czechoslovak stamps there is no room for Slovak stamps with the legend "Slovenska Posta" despite the fact that they are of the same design as the issues originally intended for autonomous Slovakia within the framework of the Czechoslovak Republic.

The rapidity with which stamps in Slovakia were issued after the declaration of its independence in March 1939 is in great contrast with the apparent slowness of Praha. In the Protectorate the reason for this is apparently due to the fact that postal officials were waiting for the anticipated introduction of the so-called Hitler decree on the formation of the Protectorate, finally issued on March 17, 1939. In accord with this decree (Art. 3) the Protectorate would have its own government and officials, but under the terms of Art. 18 communications were put under complete control of the German Reich through the Ministry of Post and other means.

Furthermore under Art. 12 the laws of Czechoslovakia remained in effect but only "if not in conflict with the intent of the Reich in assuming protection" over the country. Particulars of such supervision and protection were to be issued by the Reich Secretary. It was not made clear to what extent the Czechs would exercise control over their communications services.

The Protectorate post became a reality on July 13, 1939 under the terms of a decree issued that day.

(continued in the April issue)

Dr. Ladislav V. Fischmeister, M.D.-State Hospital, Macclenny, FL 32063

Seventeenth Mail Auction

AUCTION ENDS APRIL 30TH, 1980

All stamps are unused, unless otherwise stated. The prices below represent MINIMUM BIDS (AUSRUPPREIS).

- | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. 1919 Essaye. Haas, neotypie, 3 val. in brown, (400,500,1000hal) R, VF | 39.— | 44. —, 10 K dark violet, small hinge brown discoloration, RR, SPECIAL | 220.— |
| 2. —, same 4 corner copies, in carmin (Horak, Pospisil, etc), VF, R | 55.— | 45.—, 2, 50 air mail, VF | 120.— |
| 3. HRADCANY. Black prints, 9 val., 5-200, VF | 45.— | 46-48. —, 2h triangle, type I, II, III, VF each | 15.— |
| 4. —, 1 hal., highly spec., coll., mint & used, perf. imp., BLOCKS, over 200, excellent | 150.— | 49. —, same OFFSET, VF, R | 35.— |
| 5. —, 3 hal., as above, BLOCKS up 20, over 200 stamps | 165.— | 50. —, 2h longue, BLACK OVERPRINT, type III, VF | 52.— |
| 6. —, 3 hal., PRIVATE PERF., 26 mint & used, scarce, opportunity | 20.— | 51-54. —, Porto: 4, 6, 14, 25, VF | 11.—, 4, 50, 23.—, 20.— |
| 7. —, 5 h yellow green, over 300, shades, mint & used, BLOCKS, scarce offer, spec. | 180.— | 55. —, Porto 50 h, Large num, VF, typ II, RRR | 490.— |
| 8. — same, perf 11½, 62 stamps, spec., rare offer | 45.— | 56-7. PC 1919. Porto. 1 K, 5 K, 10 K, VF, RR | 4.—, 18.—, 210.— |
| 9. —, 40 hal, on pages, detailed description, 74 stamps, m & u | 45.— | 58-9. —, same OFFSET 1 & 5 K, R | 15.—, 39.— |
| 10. —, Private ROULETTES, very special, 17 stamps & 6 pairs, scarce | 35.— | 60-61. —, 15/2, 20/54, NH Luxus R | 65.—, 60.— |
| 11-12. —, 25 h, viol., perf 11½:10¾ 11½, VF | 3.50 & 8.— | 62-63. —, 1 h & 10/24, VF | 12.—, 53.— |
| 13-14. —, 25, ULTRAMARIN, NH & LH | 16.— & 14.— | 64-65. —, 10/24 RR, & 15/36, both OFFSET, VF | 90.—, 30.— |
| 15-16. —, 10 h IMPERF., NH & LH | 26.— & 21.— | 66-67. —, 6 & 10 filler, OFFSET, VF | 4.50, 6.50 |
| 17-18. —, 20h, same, NH & LH | 70.— & 62.— | 68. —, 10 filler, WHITE NUMERALS, poor perforation as often — special | 59.— |
| 19-20. —, 30h, Same NH & LH | 89.— & 79.— | 69. —, 15 f, white, N, VF | 68.— |
| 21. —, 30h, IMP. DOUBLE PRINT, NH, LUXUS, R — special | 100.— | 70-71. —, Parlament 3 K, single VF & upper corner copy VF 23.— | 30.—, 58.— |
| 22. —, 3 h, GUTTER, NO FOLD, EF | 13.— | 72. —, same 5 K VF | 26.— |
| 23. —, 10 h, tete-beche gutter, VF | 40.— | 73. —, Zita 50 f, VF | 26.— |
| 24. —, 25 h GUTTER, VF — R | 75.— | 74. —, Porto 30 f, VF | 26.— |
| 25. —, VZOREC 1 - 1000, VF, 21 stamps | 130.— | 75. —, Masaryk 125, ULTRAMARIN VF | 25.— |
| 26. —, 10 h IMP., OFFSET, lower rand copy with No., VF | 35.— | 76. —, Dove 20 h tete-beche, VF | 32.— |
| 27-28. LEGIONAR. 15 h LIGHT green, pair on piece & rand BLOCK, both w. imprint VF | 20.— & 45.— | 77. —, Allegorie 50h gutter tete-beche, minor fault, special | 24.— |
| 29. —, 15h green, PERF. 11½:10½, VF | 6.50 | 78. —, Agriculture, complete IMPERFORATE, R, VF | 73.— |
| 30. —, 25 h Perf. 11½, VF | 5.— | 79-80. SOKOL & OLYMPIADA, sets VF | 34.—, 36.— |
| 31 & 32. —, 25 LIGHT brown, single & BLOCK w. imprint, rand, VF | 5.— & 25.— | 81-82. Masaryk 1 kc, TYP II (Raminko), WZ 8 and RARE 7, VF | 46.—, 60.— |
| 33. —, 50 h, Perf. 10½:13¾, VF, R | 38.— | 83. —, 2 Kc, VERTICAL WZ 3, LUXUS rand stamp RR, special | 210.— |
| 34-35. —, 100 h, PERF. 10½:11½, VF, single & block | 8.— & 35.— | 84. Karluv Tyn, 20h, VERTICAL COIL PAIR NH LUXUS RR | 150.— |
| 36-37. PC 1919. 25, 50, 60, TYP I & TYP II, VF OFFSET — each set | 20.— | 85. Pernstyn 30 h, vertical coil block of six RRR, VF — special | 410.— |
| 38 & 39. —, 3 K type I & II, VF — each | 20.— | 86. Nitra 50h Gutter, VF | 165.— |
| 40 & 41. —, 4 K type I or II, VF, each — INVERTED OVERPRINT | 23.— | 87. Arras, 2 kc, UPPER LEFT BLOCK W. COUPON, VF | 18.50 |
| 42-43. —, 10 K, light violet, type I or II, VF — each | 195.— | 88-9. Stefanik 60 h BLUE, single & block, VF | 5.—, 22.— |
| | | 90. KOSICE — LARGE CROSS RR, VF | 420.— |
| | | 91. SO 1920 25 h, PERF. 11¾, VF | 25.— |
| | | 91-92. —, 5 & 15 h IMPERF, VF | 14.—, 10.— |
| | | 93. —, Masaryk set, VF | 77.— |
| | | 94. Hradcany, 1000h, BLACK OVERPRINT VF R | 98.— |
| | | 95. Newspaper, NASINEC, VF | 9.— |
| | | 96-7. 5 h, VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL GUTTERS, VF, R —each | 155.— |

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