

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the



Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

(USPS 808300)

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

A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

Vol. XXXXII

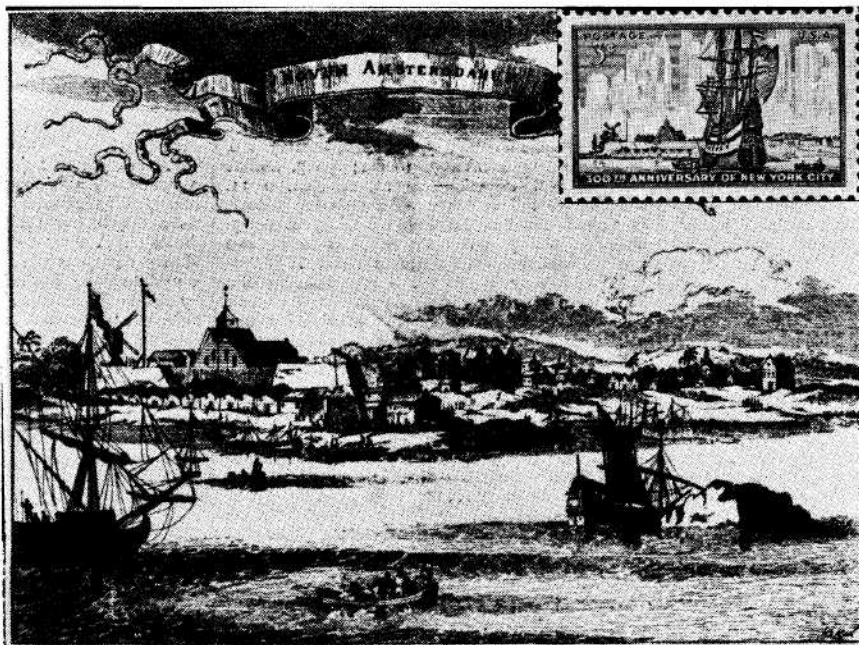
December, 1980

No. 10, Whole No. 405

BOHEMO-SLOVENICUM (*WITH SOME COAXING*)

If stamps did not tell a story, I would probably quit collecting. I am not one for just buying the new issues, sticking them in a stock book and waiting to see how they will do price-wise in the succeeding years. The challenge as I see it, is when a stamp looks as though it had a story to tell, but needs some coaxing. I happen to be particularly fond of non-Czecho stamps which are in some way related to Czechoslovakia -- in other words BOHEMO-SLOVENICA.

My attention was recently drawn to a man named Augustin Herman,



whose birthplace was Prague, and who first saw the light of day in the year 1600. After the infamous battle of White Mountain, Augustin Herman was forced to flee and settled in the Netherlands. There he gained a fine reputation in business and entered government service. He made several voyages to America, and eventually settled down in New Amsterdam, where he performed high-level advisory, administrative and ambassadorial functions.

Literary sources indicate that Herman possessed an indomitable spirit, was a bit wild and, in his youth, was somewhat adventurous. He made no secret of his national origin -- in fact he was extremely proud of it.

From New Amsterdam Herman eventually moved to the Colony of Maryland, whose proprietor at this time was Lord Baltimore. There he contracted, for an appropriate sum, to prepare a map of Maryland and Virginia. This was no easy task at the time, since a geographer's only source of research, in this case, was the geographer himself. He physically walked or rode on horseback through uninhabited and desolate areas, where nobody had set foot previously. On a map located in the Greenville (?S.C.?) library, the following note is found: "Virginia and Maryland, as inhabited and occupied in this year of 1670, surveyed and drawn by Augustin Herman, a Bohemian." On this map also appears a lovely likeness of the founder of "Bohemian Manor". (For his labors Herman had received a grant of 24,000 acres of excellent farmland, a part of which he had named "Bohemian Manor").

At an earlier time Herman had drawn "A View of New Amsterdam". This drawing appears as an engraving on Nicholas Johann Visscher's map, which was published sometime between 1650 and 1656. It depicts a town with a characteristic wind mill, a church, city wall and rows of typical Dutch-type houses. The original is supposedly located in the Library of Congress.

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

Second Class Postage Paid at Ord, Nebraska 68862.

Office of Publication, 305 So. 16th, Ord, Nebraska 68862

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In reading the above material I immediately realized that a similar drawing appears on the US three-cent stamp issued on the occasion of the 300th Anniversary of the Founding of the City of New York. And here my search really began. Did the American engraver really use the drawing by Augustin Herman for his design? Is this stamp to be included in a Bohemo-Slovenica collection?

My first problem was to secure a true reproduction of the original engraving as it appeared on the aforementioned map. It so happens that the Czech journal, ZLATÁ PRAHA (Golden Prague) of 1889 carried a long article on Herman, including his portrait and the drawing of New Amsterdam. Even a cursory look at the drawing and the US stamp tells the story. They are indeed very much alike, and so we have yet another item to include in our Bohemo-Slovenica collection.

But there is a bit more worth saying about Augustin Herman. In Maryland he named nearly every spot he could after his homeland. There is Little Bohemia, Three Bohemian Sisters, a river flowing through Bohemia Manor is named the Big Bohemian River and another the Little Bohemian River. Early citizens of Maryland who loved and revered Herman bestowed the title of "Lord" on him and named more places and things to his liking. There is a Bohemian Bridge, Bohemia Ferry, Bohemia Church, and eventually a little town called Hermandale and another named Port Herman. Herman died at the blessed age of 86 in 1686.

So thus the 3¢ US stamp of 1953 yielded more than I would ever have expected.

Dr. Miroslav Vostatek
Translated by Henry Hahn

DUES ARE DUE

Once again it's that time of year. Enclosed with the Specialist this time you will find an envelope for your 1981 dues payment. After holding the line for many years the Board of Directors have been forced to raise the annual dues for the Society for Czechoslovak Philately to \$10.00 for regular members, \$20.00 for patron members (who also receive a bound copy of the Specialist for the year), while only the dues for youth members remain unchanged at \$3.00. Even with this rise the dues will still not completely cover the cost of publishing the ten issues of the Czechoslovak Specialist. The large number of illustrations, which contribute greatly to the high quality of the publication, adds to that expense. We believe that even at \$10.00 the members are getting a real bargain. Won't you sit right down now and send your dues to Chuck Collins, and if you see your way clear to add a dollar or two for the publication fund it would help a lot.

Paul Sturman:

The Artist-Creators of Czechoslovakia's Stamps

FRANZ CLEYN - Born in 1582 at Roztoky near Praha, Czechoslovakia - died in 1658 at London, England. Painter, draughtsman and engraver, he studied with Italian masters and upon completion of a sojourn in Italy joined the court of Christian IV, the King of Denmark, for whom he created a series of decorative illustrations. In 1624 he was called by Charles I, the King of England, to be a member of his group of creative artists. In the service of the King of England Cleyn was especially successful in creating designs for the tapestry weavers at Mortlake, whom he coached to a high degree of perfection in their art. Later Cleyn branched out into decorative painting, frescoes and book illustrations.

The six tapestries of Bratislava, depicting scenes from the classic tale of Hero and Leander, designed by Cleyn, originated at the English royal manufactory at Mortlake near London and were woven by a group of Flemish weavers under the supervision of Philipe de Maechta in the years of 1630-32. They all bear the mark of the British royal house, a white shield with the cross of St. George in red.



These tapestries (gobelins) originally were utilized in decorating the walls of the Palace of the Primate in Bratislava. During the tempestuous war years they were cleverly hidden under artistically worthless rugs in the Palace. They were discovered quite recently by accident and today are the property of the municipality of Bratislava. They are on permanent exhibit in the city's art gallery established in the Primate's Palace. They are extremely valuable examples of Western Europe's weaver's art of past centuries.

The tapestries depict six incidents in the classic love story of Hero and Leander:

2 Kcs - Leander meets Hero in the sanctuary during ceremonies commemorating Venus and Adonis, and is overwhelmed by the beauty of Hero.

2.40 Kcs - Every night Leander swims across the Hellespont narrows to be with his beloved Hero.

3 Kcs - Hero hangs a lantern in the lighthouse to guide Leander on his way.

3 Kcs - Hermione, Leander's sister, pleads with Leander not to essay the swim during a turbulent night with high waves endangering life.

3.60 Kcs - Leander ignores his sister's pleas, plunges into the sea and perishes in the storm. On the morrow Hero finds Leander's lifeless body on the beach and in her grief plunges into the still turbulent waters and drowns.

3.60 Kcs - Eros, the god of love, mourns the death of such idyllic lovers, signifying not only the tragedy of their love affair, but also its depth and infinite devotion.

A tragic love story, beautifully illustrated by the art of Franz Cleyn of Roztoky, the Flemish weavers, and transformed into attractive stamps by the skillful hands of engraver Miloš Ondráček to the pride of that youthful and boisterous city on the banks of Danube, Bratislava.

NEW MEMBERS WANTED

HELP your Society to grow! Enlist a fellow collector of Czechoslovak stamps for membership. Application forms are available from our Secretary, Edward J. Sabol, or from the Editorial office.

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN COLLECTORS WANT EXCHANGE

A short blurb on our Society appeared in the Czech language magazine FILATELIE recently, and as a result our Secretary has received over 50 letters from collectors in Czechoslovakia interested in exchange or correspondence. The letters are all in Czech. If you are interested in having one of these letters, send a stamped addressed envelope to Edward J. Sabol, 427 King Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S STOCKBOOK

From time to time the Society for Czechoslovak Philately has expressed its concern about the arbitrary exclusion of certain areas of philately from consideration at international exhibitions. In a recent case of this sort our Spanish member, Juan Santaeugenia Grau, found that his exhibit of stamps and covers with the surcharges of the liberation of Czechoslovakia from 1945 had been declared ineligible for an award at London 1980. This action of the international jury at the London exhibition has prompted the Society to appeal to Col. James T. DeVoss, who is the US representative to and Vice President of FIP, the International Federation of Philately, to work toward improvement in this attitude.

The Society firmly believes that no material should be excluded from exhibition or judging for political motives, and we shall continue to work through our representatives to FIP and by espousing this position in our publications to achieve that goal at all international exhibitions wherever they are held.

COMPEX 1981

The Directors of the Society decided at their meeting at BALPEX in September that our 1981 Convention should be held at COMPEX in Chicago. Contrary to what appeared in the October issue of the Specialist however, COMPEX 1981 will be held on 1, 2 and 3 May 1981 and not in the Fall. Charley Chesloe and Jane Sterba have agreed to be Co-Chairmen for the Convention and are already making plans for a Society booth at the show as well as for Society activities such as a dinner at a Czech restaurant. Further information on COMPEX 1981 will be published as it becomes available. In the meantime get your exhibit ready and plan for the first weekend in May in Chicago.

Address Correspondence Properly

We have been experiencing problems recently because correspondence dealing with the Society or the Specialist is being addressed to our publisher in Ord, NE. Such letters must be redirected to the Editor or to the proper officer, which causes a waste in time and the cost of additional postage. Changes of address, advertising, and inquiries about articles in the Specialist should be addressed to the Editor or to the editorial office. Letters about membership or applications should go to the Secretary, while letters dealing with dues and payments should be directed to the Treasurer. Names and addresses of all of the Society officers are printed in the masthead on page 2. Please help us to respond promptly to your inquiries and problems by sending the mail to the proper person.

A HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE OF POSTAL SERVICES IN TELTSCH AND VICINITY

By Henry Hahn

The next four pages, (centerfold) contain a continuation of the above titled work, which is being published serially. Publication began in the May 1980 issue.

The Postmaster in Teltch will receive, in addition to legal horse and rider expenses (Rittgeld), instead of the current operating income of 199 Fl., 50 Kr, an annual remuneration of 300 Fl. in addition to a bonus of 50 Guilders in return for execution of a security agreement in the livery contract.

You are hereby notified of the granting of your request of 15 March of last year, Z. 24, and you are to settle your account with respect to the increased amounts by 1 May 1860.

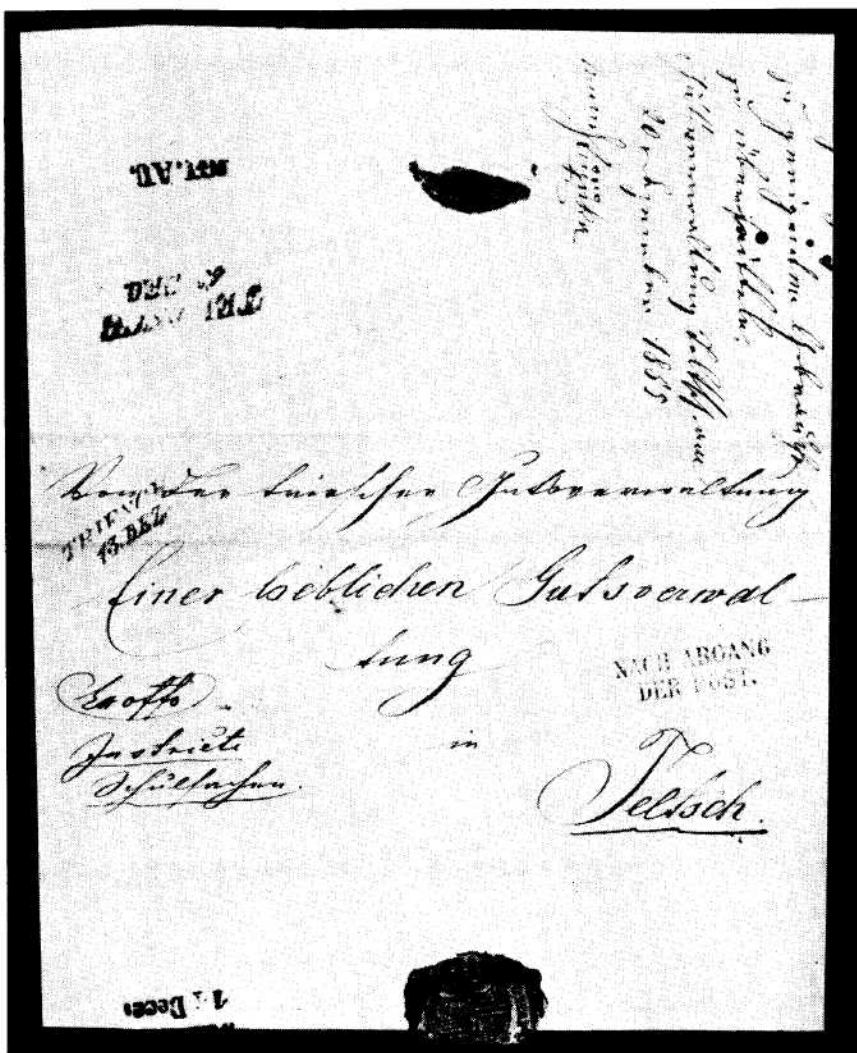


Figure 13. TRIESCH (Votoček A.3-j) to TELTSCH, "NACH ABGANG DER POST" (upon departure of the mail), via IGLAU, December 13. 1855

Since, as Mail Dispatcher, you have posted bond in the amount of 315 Fl., and as Relay Administrator in the amount of 105 Fl., held by the State Fund for Relinquishing Debts, but as Postmaster you are only required to post a service bond of 300 Fl., you may upon presentation of your receipts, receive a new receipt in the amount of 300 Fl., and the excess of 120 Fl., could be returned to you in cash payment. The k.k. County Office in Teltsch will be requested to swear you in as Postmaster. Therefore, you are requested to present yourself to the County Supervisor to take the required oath of office.

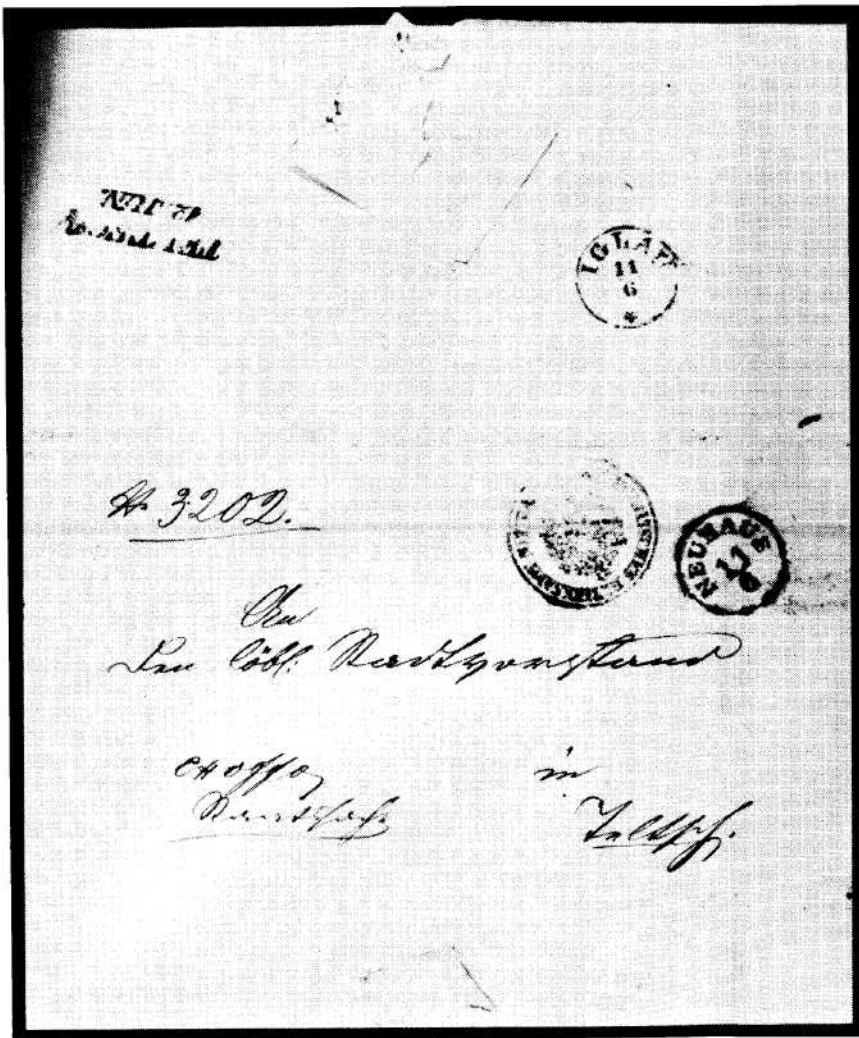


Figure 14. NEUHAUS via IGLAU to TELTSCH (Official County Business) June 11, 1861

A new contract with you will be drawn up concurrently and sent to you, accompanied by three copies which you and two witnesses must co-sign. It must then be sealed by a 3 Fl. 75 Kr. revenue stamp and returned.

From the k.k. Postal Administration, Brünn, 10 April 1860."

The volume of mail and expansion of service through Teltsch between 1845 and 1860, prompting the elevation of Teltsch to a full fledged Post Office, was considerable.

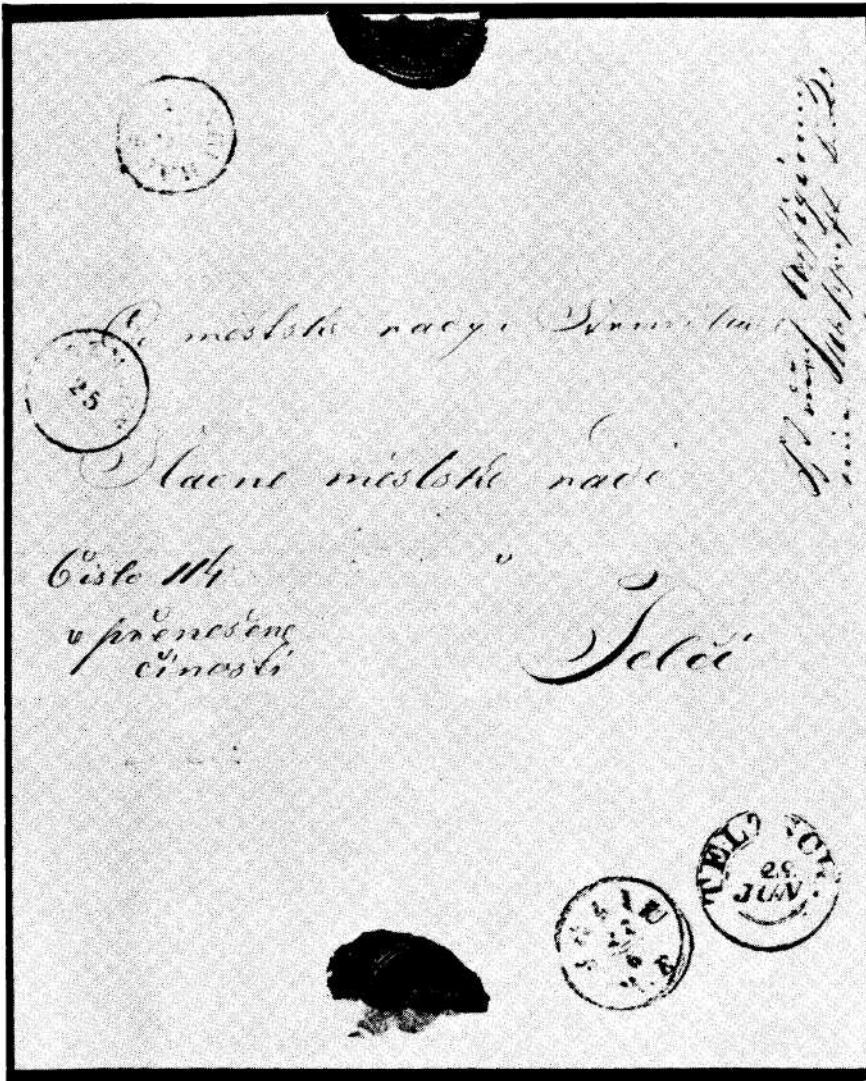


Figure 15. TREMLES via NEUHAUS via IGLAU to TELTSCH, June 25-28, 1862

Both the dated straight line and circular (Votoček A.3-j and G.3) postmarks were in use at the time, with the straight line postmark being used at least as late as 1868.

Transit markings on covers in the period immediately following establishment of the Teltsch Post Office lend additional clues to routings. A letter from Neuhaus, about 35 kilometers south-west of Teltsch, reached Teltsch by way of Iglau. The cover, shown in Figure 14, is "official" mail, hence unfranked. Oddly, the latter reached Iglau on the same day (June 11, 1961) as it was postmarked in Neuhaus, but only reached Teltsch six days later. Another such "official service" cover (Figure 15) from Tremles, which lies between Neuhaus and Teltsch -- only some 18 kilometers from Teltsch -- reached there by a circuitous route, going back to Neuhaus and from there via Iglau.

A cover from Olbersdorf, present day Austria, posted on February 23, 1868 (Figure 16), shows the routing to the village of Studein, which almost certainly represents a route administered by the Teltsch Postmaster since its inception on July 1, 1860. The cover received a transit marking in Stockerau, Austria (February 24th), Znaim (February 25th), Teltsch (February 26) and a receiving postmark in Studein (February 27th). The route between Znaim and Teltsch continued to pass through Budweis, Jamnitz and Datschitz (see Figure 9), though no transit markings were applied there.

According to Votoček,⁹ the smaller circular postmark of Teltsch, type E1, came into use in 1866 and the larger, circular type G3 device was retired. However, the older, straight line cancel, type A.3-j, continued in use for at least another two years. By 1870 the "thimble" cancel, type E.70, appeared and was used concurrently with the E.1 type. The above mentioned postmarks are illustrated in Figure 17.

At the close of 1874, Postmaster Rambašek was 68 years of age and had served Teltsch in various postal capacities for 40 years. It appears that failing health forced him to retire at the end of the year, and he passed away in Teltsch on February 26, 1875.

His duties as Postmaster were assumed by Karel Kalivoda who, according to the following document, succeeded in securing a healthy "subsidy" for his operation. The notifying document reads as follows:

"N. 201 The k.k. Post Office in Teltsch Pursant to the decree by the Trade Ministry dated 31 December of last year, z. 35.781, the k.k. Post Office has been granted an annual subsidy of 300 Guilders, effective 1 January 1875.

The k.k. Post Office is hereby notified of the settlement of the revenues of 7 February of last year, Z.27.

k.k. Postal Directorate
Brunn, 6 January 1875"

What prompted this subsidy is not known, though it may be surmised that part of it may have been to pay the salary of an additional postal worker. According to the Tovačovský,¹⁰ Postmaster Rambašek in his later years had one assistant while Postmaster Kalivoda had two.

FOR SALE THROUGH THE SPECIALIST

The following publications are for sale through the Specialist. Please send your remittance payable to the CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST to Richard Major, P.O. Box 4074, Arlington, VA 22204. Because of the recent increase in postage rates it is now necessary to require 90¢ for the first book and 50¢ for each additional book for postage only. If you desire insurance please add 50¢ up to \$15, 85¢ to \$50.

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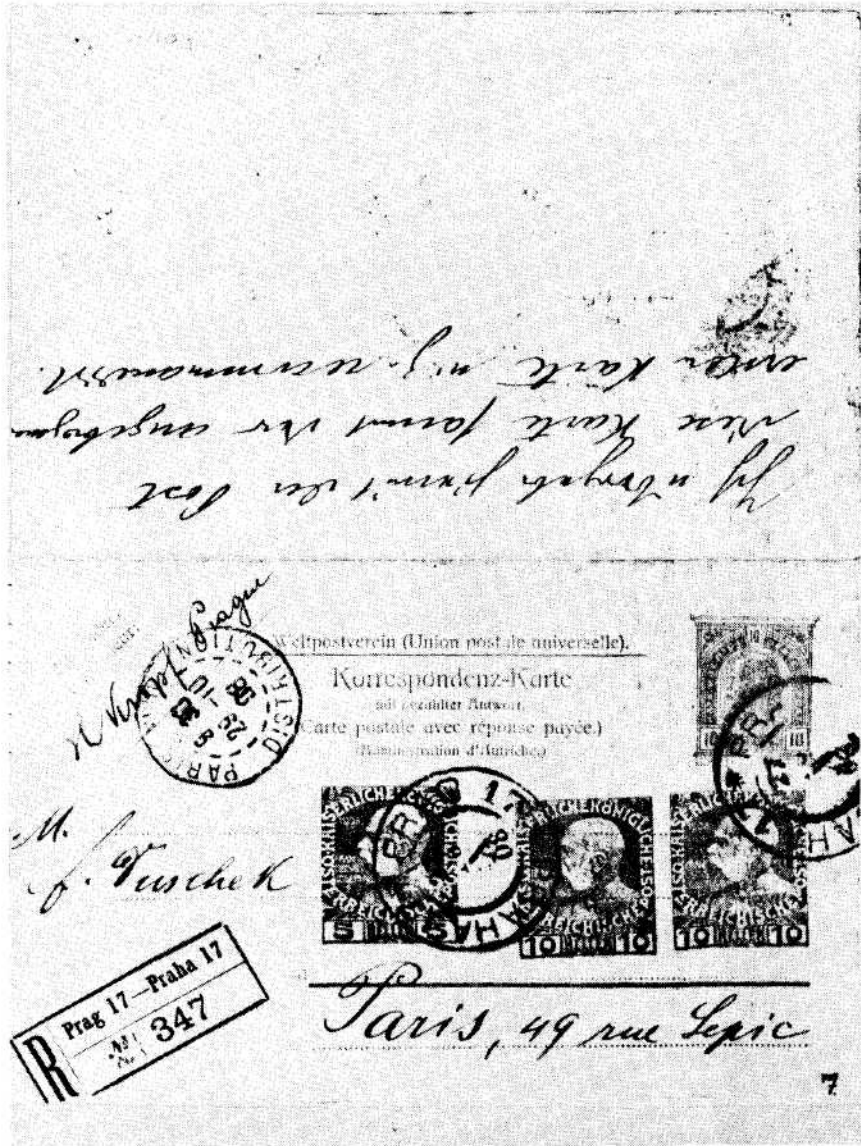
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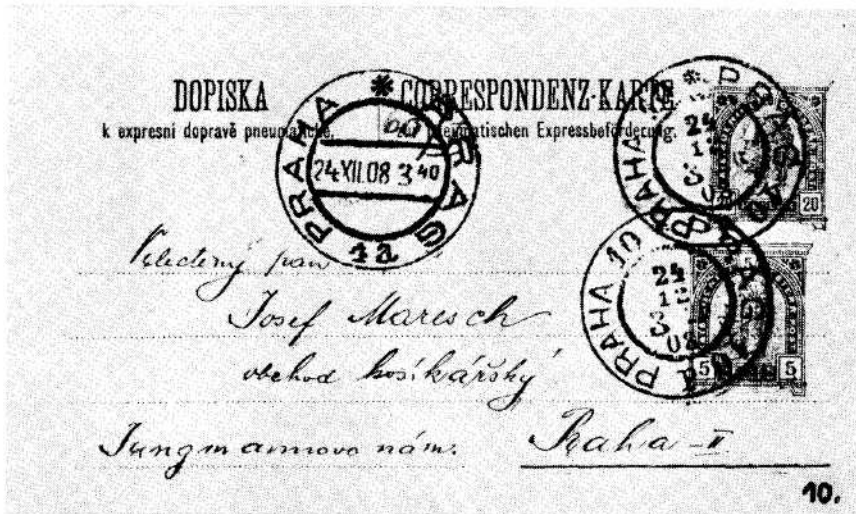
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AUSTRIAN POSTAL STATIONERY WITH CZECH TEXTS

The illustrations on the next three pages belong to the article with the above title which appeared in the November issue of the Specialist. They were omitted because of lack of space. Also omitted by oversight was the name of the translator, Paul Sturman.

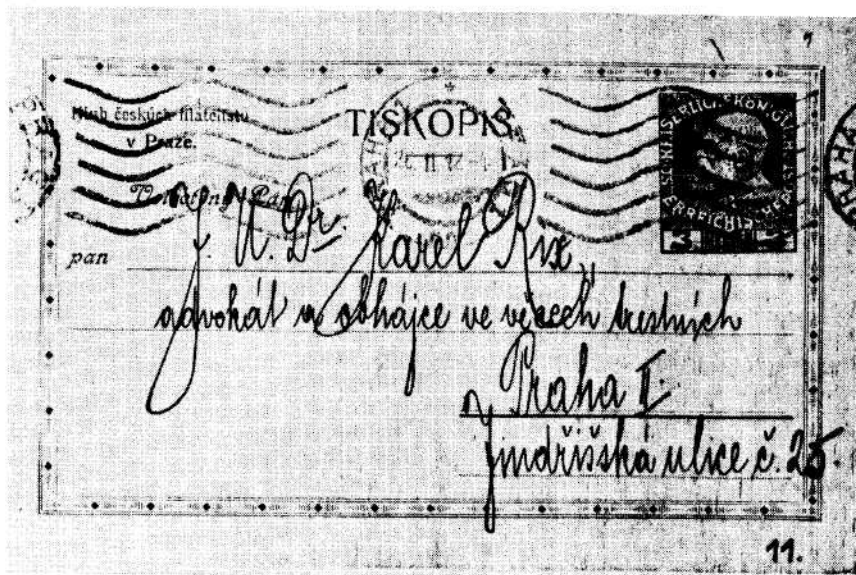




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4	Similar lot, 41 stamps	6.
5	Boy Scouts, * signed	12.
6	Same, used	12.
7	Hradčany set up to 1000, all unused, some perf.	10.
8	Hradčany perforated some 14 stamps	10.
9	Hradčany about 300 used, accumulation	10.
10	POŠTA 1919, some 67 stamps, some used	38.
11	Masaryk 1920, unused set 125h,500h,1000h	5.
12	Masaryk 1923 set *	5.
13	Masaryk 1925 unused set 40h to 5 K	5.
14	Masaryk vertical watermark, used set 1 K to 5 K	14.
15	Masaryk Congress set * (Sc about \$80)	40.
16	SLET set unused (Scott about \$80)	40.
17	Masaryk 1930 set unused	5.
18	same with tabs	10.
19	Accumulation of some 125 covers and cards	18.
20	Postal stationery * and used, 150 pieces	60.
21	Box of stamps, covers, cards well worth	50.
22	Dove and Agriculture set up 600h *	10.
23	AIR MAIL, first set imperf *	30.
24	AIR MAIL, second set * signed	40.
25	AIR MAIL, third set *	4.
26	set up to 50 K	3.
27	same with overprint compl. *	3.
28	50h green pair IMPERF	15.
29	Eastern Silesia on album pages * and used, about 55	30.
30	Bohemia-Moravia, complete country on album pages	32.
31	150 stamps 1945 to 1980 * and used	5.
32	BOOKS: Monografie No. 13	10.
33	Monografie No. 14	10.
34	Monografie No. 3	10.
35	Specialized Catalog of Czech stamps <i>(all of the above books are in Czech)</i>	10.
36	Set of NY Worlds Fair sheets, 10 different * and used <i>BOOKS CLOSE JANUARY 17th, 1981</i>	30.

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