

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the



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A.P.S. Unit 18

S.P.A. Branch 284

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No. 8, Whole No. 443

SOCIETY PACES SEPAD AWARDS

Although our Society had the fewest exhibits entered of any of the societies participating at SEPAD 1984, our members garnered an excellent array of awards. Dominick Riccio led the way by winning the Grand Award, SEPAD Gold and S.C.P. First Award with his vastly improved and comprehensive showing of Carpatho-Ukraine 1976-1976. Hans Klein, attending the show all the way from Holland, treated the SEPAD visitors to a fine exhaustive study of the 1920 Masaryk issue of Czechoslovakia, for which he received a SEPAD Gold Award. Hans also took the S.C.P. Second Award for this extremely interesting work-up of the proofs, essays and printing varieties of the Masaryk issue. Last but not least, a newcomer to the national exhibition circuit, member Genarino Petracco of Alabama, presented a good exhibition of Bohemia and Moravia, the German Protectorate, which included a budding collection of the Theresienstadt concentration camp issue. Pete won a SEPAD Silver-Bronze Award, and the Society Third Award. Congratulations to all!

SEPAD 1984 was the excellent show we have come to expect it to be — well organized, well attended and fully subscribed by bourse dealers and exhibitors. This year's show was greatly improved by the change in location to the Adam's Mark Hotel, where the facilities were first class and brand new. The Society cocktail party was well attended and gave all members present an excellent opportunity to meet the other members, judges, dealers and friends of the Society.

The highlight of the SEPAD show for our members was a marathon lecture and forgery clinic conducted by our honorary member and Czechoslovakia's number one expert, Ing. Jan Karásek. Ing. Karásek's talk was absolutely delightful with his anecdotes of famous Czech philatelic personalities and his encyclopedic knowledge of stamps and postal history. He demonstrated some of the ingenious methods utilized by experts in detecting forgeries and offered a wealth of information and tips to collectors on perforation varieties as well as the Pošta Československá 1919 overprint. There was also a lively discussion of the role of the expert in court cases and the differing attitudes toward marking of forgeries and expert testimony among the various countries. Henry Hahn did an admirable job as interpreter for Ing. Karásek.

All in all, SEPAD 1984 was a most enjoyable and informative experience.

INTERVIEW WITH ING. KARÁSEK

The following interview with Ing. Jan Karásek was conducted at SEPAD by Henry Hahn after Ing. Karásek's lecture to the members and guests of the Society.

Q. Ing. Karásek, it is indeed wonderful to see you in our country. Would you care to

tell our readers what brings you here?

A. Of course you know that I am here at the invitation of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately. It has been my intention for a long time to visit your country to lecture and to help establish stronger ties between collectors in the USA and in Czechoslovakia.

Q. How do you hope to accomplish this mission?

A. First, to conduct lectures and seminars at SEPAD here in Philadelphia, later in Washington, D.C., Chicago and finally in Canada before returning to my home in Brno.

Q. What will be the subject of your lectures?

A. As a representative of the Commission of Experts of the Union of Czechoslovak Philatelists and member of the International Association of Philatelic Experts (AIJP), I plan primarily to lecture on the authentication of stamps and overprints of Czechoslovakia.

Q. What are your initial impressions?

A. Mostly joy in being here and appreciation of your welcome to me.

Q. Have you had an opportunity to see the exhibits at SEPAD?

A. Yes, but not in as much detail as they really deserve. There certainly are some worthy showings that I hope to be able to study more closely.

Q. Any particular ones?

A. I am primarily struck by the heavy emphasis on thematics — that is, the Polar Explorations, Antarctic flights and related subjects. In the classical section I have particularly noted two specialized showings of Greece, both of high caliber, an excellent one on Carpatho-Ukraine and one of particular worth, a specialized study of the Masaryk issue of 1920 of Czechoslovakia. The latter two exhibits are of course those of Messrs. Riccio and Klein.

Q. What do you think of the facilities here at the Adam's Mark Hotel?

A. They certainly are luxurious. It is air conditioned, has all of the modern conveniences one can think of — a very fine exhibit hall and also fine lecture halls and partying facilities.

Q. Where are you off to now?

A. Having just finished my three-hour lecture, which you interpreted for me, and which was attended by numerous outstanding and well-known collectors of Czechoslovakia, I am ready for a short break before the reception in the Society suite. However, I would like to add that I was delighted by the close attention and interest demonstrated by our audience with respect to all subjects covered: Pošta Československá 1919, Hradčany and other issues.

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Changes of address to the editorial office.

Q. I hope that you did not mind the many questions.

A. To the contrary. The questions dealing with the illustrations of the most recent forgeries were particularly pertinent. They pointed up the danger to our hobby caused by these products of the more recent and more sophisticated forgers.

Q. What are some of these forgeries?

A. The most recent and dangerous, I believe, are forgeries of the rare perforations of the 1918-1920 period.

Q. Is there a final thought you would like to leave with our readers?

A. I am happy that my first and extremely pleasant experiences among you are being conveyed to your S.C.P. members by this interview. I hope that your interest in the stamps of Czechoslovakia will continue to grow and deepen. You may be proud of the contributions to philately made by your Society. Once again, many thanks for the wonderful reception.

SEPAD 1984 CACHET AVAILABLE

The lovely cover commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Czech National Anthem "Kde domov můj?" illustrated below may now be purchased from the Society by mail.

The cover is franked with the U.S. Masaryk "Champions of Liberty" stamps issued in 1960 and bears the SEPAD '84 special cancel of our Society. The design is really the special cancel used in Czechoslovakia in 1934 on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the National Anthem, at which time the well-known "Music Sheet," illustrated in the cachet, was issued. The cover also bears the SEPAD US Postal Service show cancel featuring the American Society of Polar Philatelists, which also was one of the participating societies at SEPAD 1984.

Cancels dated for each of the three days of the SEPAD show (September 21, 22 and 23) are available. They may be ordered for \$1.50 each postpaid, or the set of three for \$4.00. Please send your remittance payable to *The Czechoslovak Specialist* to Richard Major, P.O. Box 4074, Arlington, VA 22204.

Remember your non-philatelic Czech friends who might enjoy this souvenir also. The number of covers with the Masaryk stamps is limited; the balance of covers are franked with other US commemorative stamps. Please indicate your preference.



MEMBERSHIP LIST

In response to numerous requests we have decided to print the Membership List for the Society in the SPECIALIST again. Please note that this list includes only those members who have paid their dues for 1984.

IF YOUR NAME IS NOT ON THIS LIST, YOUR 1984 DUES HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AND THIS WILL BE THE LAST COPY OF THE SPECIALIST THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE.

REINSTATEMENT MAY BE MADE BY DIRECT PAYMENT TO THE TREASURER.

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THE THIRD AIR MAIL ISSUE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 1930-1939

By Zdeněk Kvasnička — Translated 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 March issue.

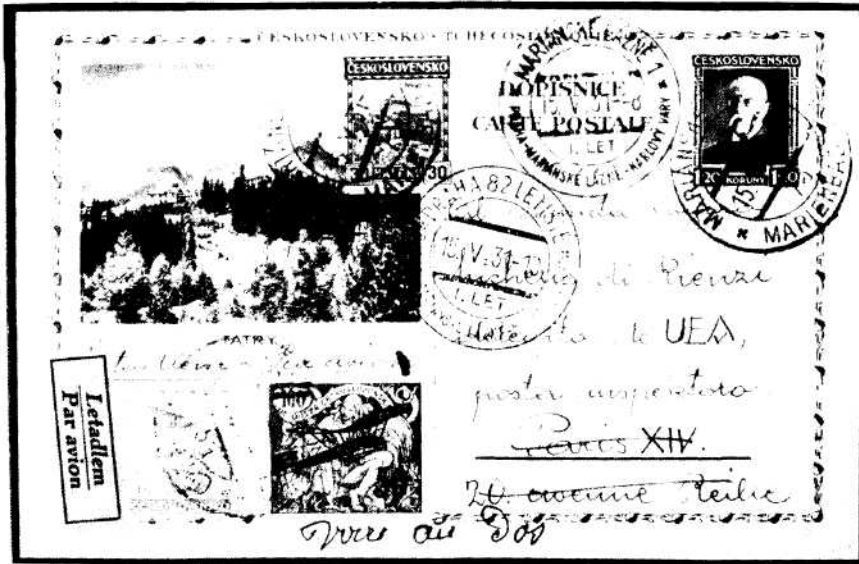


Figure 21. First Flight; Marienbad to Prague, May 15, 1931.

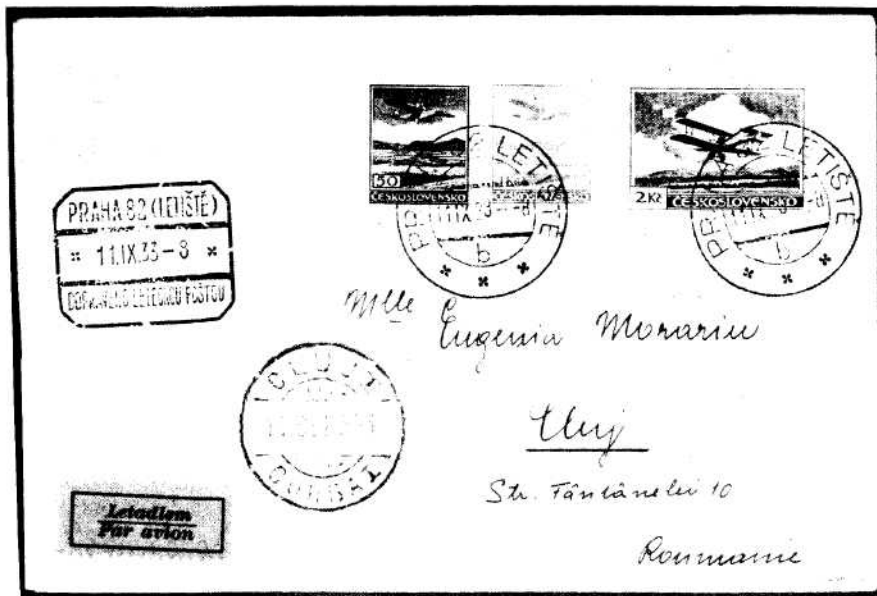


Figure 22. First Flight; Prague-Cluj, September 11, 1933.



Figure 23. First Flight; Prague-Zurich, May 15, 1935.

FIRST FLIGHTS		
Date	Route	Pieces Carried
Jun 3, 1936	<i>Prague/Brunn-Bratislava-Kosice/Uzhorod-Cluj-Bucharest</i>	
	(In Užhorod transferred to route Uzhorod-Cluj-Bucharest)	
	Prague-Užhorod	192
	Prague-Cluj	16
	Prague-Bucharest	196
	Užhorod-Cluj	50
Jul 1, 1935	<i>Opava/Mor.Ostrava-Hradec Králové-Prague</i>	
	Opava (Troppau)-Prague	7
	Mor.Ostrava-Prague	947
	Hradec Králové-Prague	418
Jul 2, 1935	<i>Prague-Hradec Králové-Opava/Mor.Ostrava</i>	
	Prague-Hradec Králové	36
	Prague-Opava	149
	Prague-Mor.Ostrava	289
Sep 2, 1936	<i>Prague-Užhorod-Cluj-Kiev-Moscow</i>	
	Prague-Užhorod	59
	Prague-Cluj	17
	Prague-Kiev	16
	Prague-Moscow	2,239

FIRST FLIGHTS		
Date	Route	Pieces Carried
Apr 5, 1937	Prague-Brussels (from Ruzině Airport) (Figure 24)	1,912
	Brussels-Prague	2,833



Figure 24. First Flight; Prague-Brussels, April 5, 1937.

FIRST FLIGHTS		
Date	Route	Pieces Carried
May 15, 1937	Prague-Bratislava-Klagenfurt-Triest-Venice	
	Prague-Bratislava	100
	Prague-Klagenfurt	77
	Prague-Triest	20
	Prague-Venice (Figure 25)	2,119
	Bratislava-Klagenfurt	2
	Bratislava-Triest	2
Jun 15, 1937	Prague-Liberec (Figure 26)	1,919
	Liberec-Prague	2,212
May 16, 1938	Prague-Rome	145
	Rome-Prague	133



Figure 25. First Flight; Prague-Venice, May 15, 1937.

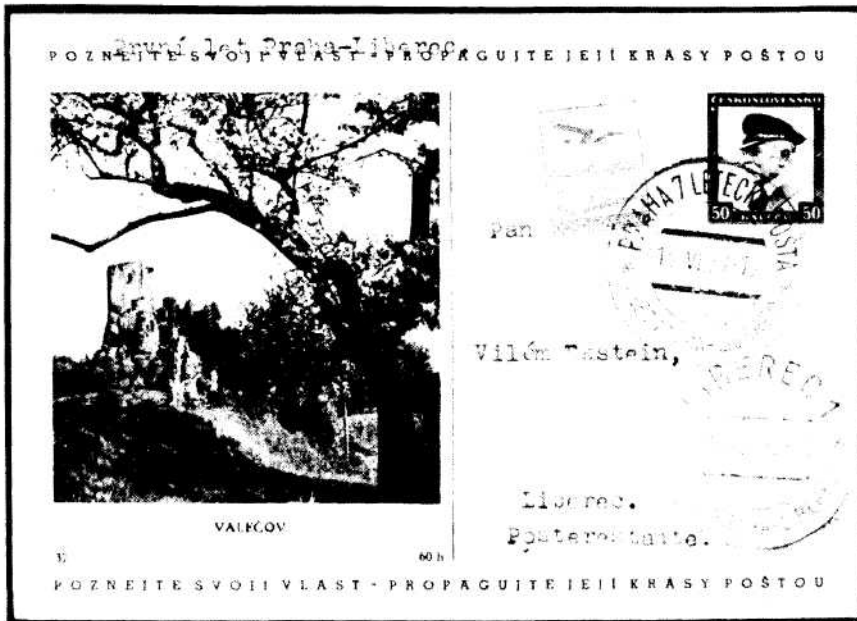


Figure 26. First Flight; Prague-Liberec, June 15, 1937.

To be continued

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