

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Official Monthly Journal of the



(USPS 808300)
Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc

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

A.P.S. Unit 18

Vol. L

January 1988

No. 1, Whole No. 475

1988 DUES

Dear Member, your 1988 dues should arrive to me at the address indicated below no later than 31 January 1988. Last year (1986) your Society had to spend \$126.00 to remind members that their dues were overdue. This year (1987) it has gotten better . . . we only had to spend \$86.00 on reminders. But you need to realize that this is all money that shouldn't have to be spent! So send your dues in by the due date please.

Lou Svoboda
4766 S. Helena Way
Aurora, CO 80015

To help you, we are including an envelope addressed to me, and a reminder of what the various dues are. For the SIXTH year in a row, we have held our dues to the 1982 rate, because your elected officers have been finding new ways to cut costs.

Regular Membership \$15.00
Patron Membership \$25.00
Junior (under 18) Membership \$ 3.00

NOTE: Members outside of the USA or CANADA — MUST — add \$4.00 surface postage or \$8.00 airmail postage.

For our members not using U.S. bank accounts, please try to make sure that your payment is either in U.S. cash or a check that indicates, both that the amount is U.S. currency and that the check is payable on a U.S. bank (it must have the magnetic/scanning readable numbers in the bottom left and the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank number in the upper right).

Patron membership provides the very great convenience of getting that year's issues of the SPECIALIST professionally bound into an attractive book marked with gold lettering. We are in the process of having such a volume printed and bound right now.

We have a fund for those members who find themselves in a situation where the dues are no longer possible or are difficult. All such participation on your part is held totally confidential. We want to keep you and to help you to enjoy the pleasure of studying Czechoslovak philately.

Ludvik Z. Svoboda
Treasurer, SCP

NOTICE: The dues envelopes were enclosed in last month's issue of the SPECIALIST.

THE HARVESTER IN MONOGRAFIE II

In 1916, Hungary issued thirteen stamps in various denominations depicting peasant women harvesting wheat. Two of those denominations had white numerals against a colored background; the others had colored numerals against a white background. After the collapse of the Imperial Armies of Austria and Hungary, the sudden rebirth of a Czechoslovak state forced its postal ministry to authorize the overprinting of existing stamps of the former Empire. Among the many stamps to be overprinted "Pošta Československá — 1919" were the wheat harvesting stamps of Hungary.

For those members who are interested in updating the chart on page 116 of Monografie II, which lists the various plates used to overprint these harvesting stamps, here are some additions to be noted:

5 f. ženci	Plate 1c
6 f. ženci	Plate 1e
15 f. ženci	Plate 1c
40 f. ženci	Plate 1e

All of the above are with colored numerals.

Also overprinted were three of the four King Charles stamps and the two Queen Zita stamps of Hungary. As to those, the following additions to the chart on page 116 also apply:

20 f. ženci	Plate 1e
20 f. ženci	Plate 2
40 f. ženci	Plate 2

Any further information regarding these plates will be gratefully received by the editor for future publication in the SPECIALIST. For that matter, any additional data which accurately supplements present information contained in Monografie II is always welcome.

Frank Julsen

REMEMBER!
PRAGA '88 IS JUST EIGHT MONTHS AWAY!!

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Vol. I

January 1988

No. 1, Whole No. 475

Published monthly except July and August - \$15.00 per year

Second Class Postage Paid at Falls Church, VA 22042

and additional mailing offices.

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Literary Editor: Frank Julsen, 8721 Via La Serena, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Advertising Manager: Edward Jack Benchik, P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, IN 46556

Elected Officers

President: Charles Chesloe, 8300 South Wolf Rd., Willow Springs, IL 60480

Vice President: Edward Jack Benchik, P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, IN 46556

Secretary: Jane Sterba, 6624 Windsor Ave., Berwyn, IL 60402

Treasurer: Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 South Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

Appointed Officers

Circuit Manager: Wolfgang Fritzsche, Box 8, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Expertizing Chairman: Edwin W. Lehecka, 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090

Librarian: Richard Palaschak, 4050 Carbury Court, Chantilly, VA 22021

Assistant Secretary: Edward Lisy, 87 Carmita Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070

STATE OF THE SOCIETY

Chesloe Elected President

At a Board meeting held on December 5 at the home of Jane Sterba in Chicago, the Board elected Charles Chesloe as President of the Society for the next two years. Jack Benchik was elected Vice-President while Ludvik Svoboda was reelected treasurer, Jane Sterba was elected secretary and Mirko Vondra was appointed editor of the *SPECIALIST*. His staff will consist of Gerald van Zanten (assistant editor), Frank Julsen (literary editor), and Jack Benchik (advertising manager).

As outgoing President, M. Vondra thanks the Board and the membership at large for their cooperation in keeping the Society intact as a viable philatelic organization, and maintaining its high standards of publication, of representation at major shows, and of individual exhibit participation.

This has been M. Vondra's third term in office, his prior two being in the early seventies. Having helped write the Bylaws and being privy to the Society's rebirth and growth, he takes with him many fond and not-so-fond memories of trials and tribulations, of triumphs and defeats. Most important of all, he has witnessed the survival and rejuvenation of the Society. These accomplishments are due mainly to the untiring efforts of its members. One such member is Henry Hahn who, as former editor, former President, former Vice-President and now U.S. Commissioner to PRAGA 88, has unselfishly applied his business talents and philatelic expertise in fostering the Society's expanding activities. Another such member was Joseph Stein. Working quietly and effectively, he helped mold a structure that saved the Society at a time when it was on the verge of collapse over two decades ago. Although he appeared in the December issue as our Member of the Month, he unfortunately passed away in September 1987. The entire Society will miss him as a gentle, understanding man with a strong will and character and an unflinching loyalty to our organization.

To the President-Elect, M. Vondra wishes the best of success. Charles Chesloe has been active in the Society since 1954 and has been instrumental in keeping the Chicagoland group the largest and most consistently active branch in the Society. As its new President, he brings with him fresh ideas which the new Board will seek to implement through its elected and appointed officers.

Let us all — Society members and Board members alike — rally around C. Chesloe and give him the fullest support which he, as the duly elected President, deserves.

Stamp Circuits

All of you who read the *SPECIALIST* are aware of the plight of our Sales and Exchange Section and the appeals that both your former President and your Circuit Manager have made for more sales and exchange material. At our December Board meeting, that plight was dramatized with these statistics:

During 1987, a total of twelve circuits were sent out to the members of which ten were retired. Presently there are seven in circulation with no philatelic material on hand to make up another circuit. Translated into plain language, this means that once the seven circuits complete their rounds and are retired, there will be no more books to circulate unless our members do something about it.

What can YOU do to keep this very valuable and beneficial service alive?

First, you should contact your Circuit Manager, Wolfgang Fritzsche, P.O. Box 8, Canandaigua, NY 14424, and request blank circuit books. He will respond promptly. If you are a newcomer to the Section and have never done this before, he will send you a list of Sales and Exchange Rules and Regulations. There is no charge for this service. Your membership in the Society automatically entitles you to free participation.

Second, go through your stock books, your glassine envelopes, your shoe boxes containing duplicates and sort them out by country. Does that surprise you? Yes, by country because our circuit is not restricted to Czechoslovakia. You may have Austria, Hungary, Israel, Spain, Poland, or even China, Japan, or the U.S.S.R. If you have enough duplicates of one country to fill a book, do so and label it that country. If all you have are duplicates of Czechoslovakia, simply label the books "Czechoslovakia."

If your duplicates or disposable material consists of F.D.C.'s or pieces on cover or blocks of four or specialty items like proofs, essays, blackprints, etc., you can submit each specialty in a separate book provided you have enough to substantially fill up most of that book. It makes no difference how high or how low the Scott's value of each book consists. It can be \$10, \$100, \$500, or even \$1,000 or more. Remember, these circuits are now fully insured by our Society through a reputable agency.

Furthermore, the country whose material you submit and the value of your entries has nothing to do with what you yourself will receive. You can submit stamps of England or Australia and you can receive books containing Czechoslovakia or Germany. You can submit stamps totaling \$100 or \$200 in Scott's value and you can select covers or other philatelic material of whatever country you choose up to whatever dollar amount you wish. The mixture is limited only by what the Sales and Exchange Section has available and in circulation at any one time.

Periodically you will receive from W. Fritzsche a statement of purchases you made and sales realized from your submissions. If your purchases exceed your sales, you will be charged the balance plus 15 percent commission on your sales which you pay by check to W. Fritzsche. If your sales exceed your purchases, the Society will pay you the balance less 15 percent commission. This small commission helps support the Section and ultimately the Society.

If you want this service to continue as one of your membership benefits, you should support it by submitting philatelic material to your Circuit Manager as explained above. It helps you convert duplicates and unwanted material into cash and helps your Society's long-term activities and functions.



Standing left to right: Ed Lechecka, President-Elect Charles Chelsoe, Vice President-Elect Jack Benchik, Joe Janecka, Secretary Jane Sterba, Front: Treasurer Ludvik Svoboda, Outgoing President Mirko Vondra.

ADVERTISEMENT

CZECHOSLOVAKIA MINT, used, FDC, Bohemia, East Silesia, Slovakia, Austria, Canada, DDR, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland, Russia, each list \$1.00. Interart, 3673 Keenan Crescent, Mississauga, Ont., Canada L4T 3M1. New issue service. Visa, Mastercard. Complete year 1986/47-4S/S/Mint/\$95.00, used \$65.00.

MEET PAUL STURMAN

His interest in stamps was aroused when his father, on return from Holland (where he studied cheesemaking on the island of Texel), brought him a silver container filled with stamps of the Netherlands. He admired the designs, tried to understand the reasons for the various issues and attempted to arrange them in some sort of order. When an older friend came to visit him in Madočany and taught him how to make an alpenhorn out of willow tree bark, he rewarded him with the collection along with its silver container.

By the time Paul Sturman was fifteen, he had his own album and kept adding new stamps to it by performing services such as tutoring, copying lessons in fine script and other tasks. When in 1920, his parents decided to depart for the U.S.A., he gave his album to his favorite cousin. And so, for the second time, his efforts to accumulate a stamp collection were thwarted.

While living in Detroit, Sturman was fascinated by the variety of U.S. stamps available and began collecting all over again. Then one day his father received a pitiful letter from a former employee in Budapest who was on the verge of starvation. Heeding his appeal for help, his father came to the man's assistance. In return, he received an ample supply of Hungarian stamps, including the *Patrona Hungariae*. These were given to him to store in his album, leaving him with unsurpassed pleasure.

His interest in stamps intensified during the New York World's Fair in 1939. When Hitler's hordes occupied Czechoslovakia, he was on a speaking tour in the Atlantic states on behalf of a Lutheran Association. When he reached New York, he splurged on stamps and miniature sheets overprinted at the Fair. While there, a call went out to Czechoslovak stamp collectors to meet on a certain day and hour at Bohemian Hall in Manhattan for the purpose of organizing a philatelic club. After a memorable roast duck dinner and Czech beer on tap, he signed up as member number 38.



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

On Reflections

Two years have elapsed and my term of office as your President has come to an end. To the Board of Directors, the various officers and to the many members who helped me through calm seas and turbulent waters, my heartfelt thanks! It's been an eventful two years for the Society, with both its ups and downs. We have participated in three shows: the one at Northeastern University in Boston was our own show; the other two — at CAPEX in Toronto and at BALPEX in Baltimore — were participatory. We have added to our membership and to our treasury and have not had to appeal to our members for funds. But our Circuit and Exchange Division has suffered from a lack of material and so far our members have not responded in any numbers to Wolfgang Fritzsche's appeal for more sales and exchange books. We are short on translators of Czech language philatelic articles. One new translator has appeared in the person of Vladimir Králiček. But two others have dropped out due to age and infirmity. We also need more contributors of English language philatelic literature. We do not want to retreat to a position we were in during most of 1985 when we were barely able to put out a complete issue every two months.

By now you are aware that every issue will henceforth contain a "Member of the Month" column. You do not need a pass key or belong to an exclusive club to qualify for that column. If you are a member in good standing, send me a resume of your background, a description of your involvement in philately, when and why you joined our Society, what you collect, what you do with your collection, and any interesting philatelic experiences you wish to share with the readers. Along with that, please enclose a clear, crisp picture of yourself for publication. Address this to Mirko Vondra, 1511 Clearview Ave, Lancaster, PA 17601.

On Anticipations

We have several members who are either ill or recovering from surgery. Already mentioned in previous issues were Lada Fischmeister, C. J. Pearce, and A. J. Hrivnak. In addition, Joseph Stein and Richard Major are not well. Charley Chesloe is recuperating from heart surgery. Everyone at the Society, both friend and stranger, wishes them well in their early recovery. Those who would like to write notes or send get-well cards to these members, please refer to the membership list in the Nov. 1986 SPECIALIST for correct addresses.

I will officially take over as managing editor of the SPECIALIST with the Jan. 1988 issue. My staff will consist of Gerald van Zanten as assistant editor, Frank Julsen as literary editor, and Jack Benchik as advertising manager. While we look forward to a bigger and better publication, there is little doubt that in the final analysis the SPECIALIST is the product of the Society's members. What you put into it is what you get out of it. Help us make it an outstanding philatelic journal. Contribute part of your time to writing articles that we on the editorial staff will be proud to publish. As an example, word has gotten back to me that some of you would like to see more literature on post-World War II stamps. That is fine! We will publish what you write and submit to us on any philatelic subjects as long as it is accurate and appropriate for our journal. Naturally we reserve the right to edit your articles as necessary.

1989 will be the 50th year of the Society's existence. It will also be the 50th year of our publication of the SPECIALIST. We are planning a few special projects to celebrate the occasion. To what extent these projects can be realized is not yet certain. Our treasury is able to meet the routine demands that the Society makes upon it in the ordinary course of a year's business. Whether it can meet the extraordinary demands of a golden anniversary year remains to be seen. We may set up an anniversary project fund toward which donations will be welcome. If so, I will let you know more about that in subsequent issues. Meanwhile, if you have any ideas or suggestions, do not hesitate to let us know about them.

At this time, I want to congratulate and welcome to our Board of Directors the following five members whose election to the Board has just been certified:

1. Charles Chesloe of Willow Springs, IL.
2. Jane Sterba of Berwyn, IL.
3. Edward J. Benchik of Notre Dame, IN.
4. Edwin Lehecka of Westfield, NJ.
5. Fred Hefer of Munich, West Germany.

THE SOCIETY'S EXPERTIZATION SERVICE

By Edwin W. Lehecka

Collecting stamps of Czechoslovakia is always a great delight. Unfortunately, many of them have been extensively forged. The Siberian Posts, the early First Republic issues, the National Anthem sheets and especially the "POSTA 1919" overprints have all been forged and are often quite difficult to detect.

If you have any items in your collection that appear doubtful, consider using the Society's expertization facilities to determine their authenticity. An expertized stamp can be sold more easily and in the event of theft or loss, a basis for an insurance claim or tax deduction is established.

Our fees are reasonable and are payable at time of application. The following rates apply:

	<i>FEE</i>
Up to \$200 Scott CV	\$3.50
\$200 Scott CV to \$999 Scott CV	2½% of CV
Over \$1000 Scott CV	1½% of CV with \$25 minimum

Non SCP members: Add 20% to above fees.

The fees that the service receives go directly into the Society treasury and are used to finance Society activities. We have available a group of outstanding experts who donate their time and services.

As Chairman of this committee, I coordinate the expertization enterprise. Please write me directly for application blanks and a copy of the regulations explaining the service.

Edwin W. Lehecka
217 Hazel Avenue
Westfield, New Jersey 07090

BROTHER ADRIAN JOSEPH

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Brother Adrian Joseph, member number 600 from Lincroft, New Jersey.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1497 BUSCHEBAYEN, Paul, 132 W. 34th St., New York, NY 10001
1498 WACINSKI, Andrew, 2539 S. Dudley St., Lakewood, CO 80227
1499 DUTTON, Douglas, 71 Queen St., Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada, N4G 3H1
1500 VADLEJCH, Jan, 1700 Dell Ave., Campbell, CA 95008

PRINTING VARIETIES IN PRAGA 1988 — 60th FIP ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR SHEET

By Henry Hahn

The State printery in Prague has once again been involuntarily kind to collectors in having produced distinct printing varieties in the recent souvenir sheet which was issued to alert us to PRAGA 88. The fact that copies sold by a certain Canadian dealer bear a registry mark above Count Paar's head, while those sold in the ČSSR do not, was brought to our attention by member Karel Fischer of Toronto with whom we visited the dealer's booth at CAPEX.

We were not disappointed. All of about a hundred sheets we examined at the booth bore the plate registry mark — in fact bore two such marks depending on the degree of misregistry of the plates.

The full sheet purchased in the ČSSR honoring Karel Josef Count Paar is shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1.

An enlarged view of the sheet including the Count's head and the word "SVĚTOVÁ" is illustrated in Fig. 2. No plate registry mark is visible. Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 show the identical areas in sheets purchased at CAPEX. Similar markings (crosses in gold color) also appear above the illustration of the post horn and above the center illustrations, in a horizontal row.

What appears as a single mark to the eye but is actually two such marks is shown in Fig. 3. This is representative of all sheets in the CAPEX dealer's stock. The far wider separation (severe misregistry) of plates illustrated in Fig. 4 was found in only a single sheet of the stock of about 100 sheets examined. The misregistry between plates is observable in Count Paar's likeness. The plate including the hair (left registry cross) is separated from the plate which bears the face by the distance between the registry marks. As a result, poor Paar has his wig on crooked; a truly sorry state of decorum for the "Highest Count Postmaster — Tempera."

Since these observations are merely preliminary and are based on examination of only one Canadian dealer's stock and a single sheet received from the ČSSR, we hope our readers will examine their copies of the sheet and report their observations to the SPECIALIST so we can report the "full story."

SVĚTOVÁ VÝ SVĚTOVÁ V.

+



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

SVĚTOVÁ VÝ

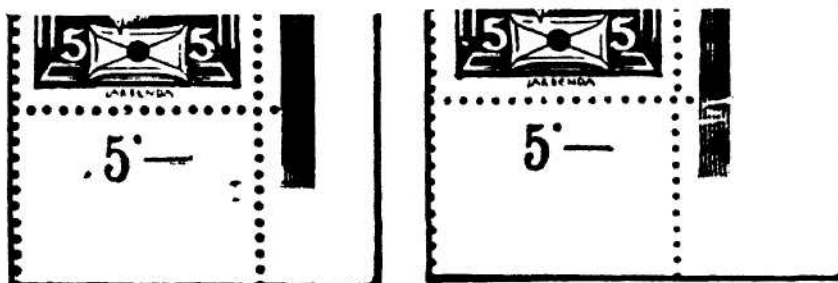
++



Fig. 4.

THE DOVE
Fourth Installment

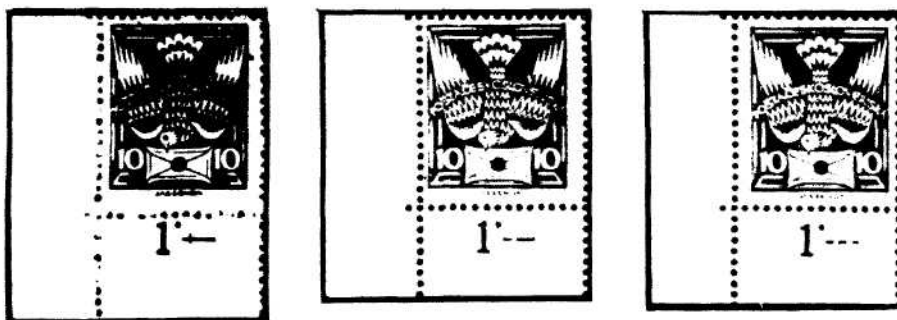
(Page 198):



illus. 310

Table 41. 10h (Green) Printing Plates

Plate Markings	Remarks
No markings, no sheet margin frame.	Both plates joined together with two 5h (Blue) plates.
No markings, no sheet margin frame.	
1.-- decimal dash once interrupted, no sheet margin frame.	
1.--- decimal dash twice interrupted, no sheet margin frame.	



illus. 311

(This installment of V. Králíček's translation of Monografie II, Allegory Section, contains only illustrations because this way the continuity and chronology of the original text is preserved in the limited space of this publication. Please refer to prior installments as well as those that will follow for applicable explanations of these illustrations.)

Table 42. 10h (Olive) Printing Plates

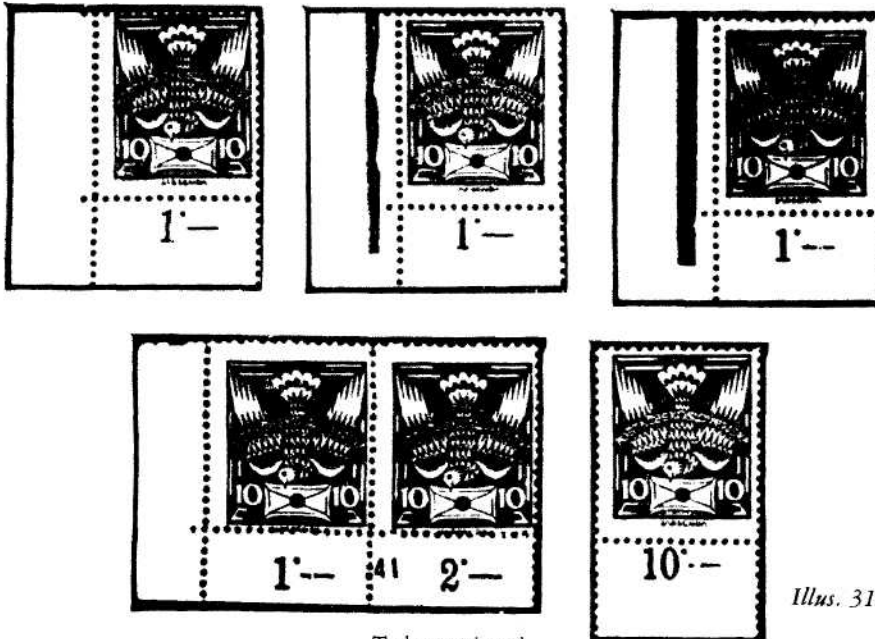
Plate Markings	Remarks
No markings and no sheet margin frame. No markings, with sheet margin frame. No markings, with sheet margin frame; without row control numbers.	Two plates for stamp booklets.
1.-- decimal dash once interrupted, with sheet margin frame. 1.-- decimal dash once interrupted; between row control numbers 1.- and 2.- is number "41." No sheet margin frame. 1.--- decimal dash twice interrupted, with sheet margin frame. 5.-- decimal dash once interrupted and no sheet margin frame. 10.-- decimal dash once interrupted; no sheet margin frame. 10.--- decimal dash twice interrupted, with sheet margin frame.	
One notch in the sheet margin frame at position 100. Two notches...position 100; row control number 10.- with uninterrupted decimal dash. Two notches...position 100; row control number 10.--- decimal dash twice interrupted. Three notches in the sheet margin frame at position 100; row control number 10.- decimal dash uninterrupted. Three notches...position 100; row control number 10.---- thrice interrupted.	
Three notches in the sheet margin frame at position 71. Four notches in the right sheet margin frame.	
Numeral "5" in the sheet margin frame at position 100. Numerical "6"...at position 100.	
1-2 In the row control numbers 2-2 the decimal dash is once 3-2 interrupted; no sheet margin 4-2 frames. *)	Since 1924 the printing plates were marked with serial number and with year of issue.
5-24 6-24 7-24 8-24	All subsequent printing plates have the sheet margin frame on one or both sides, interrupted or uninterrupted.



Svetová výstava poštovních známek
Praga 1988

9-24 10-24 11-24 12-24 13-24 14-24 15-24 16-24	
1-25 2-25 3-25 4-25	
5-26 6-26 7-26 (Type I of "7") 7-26 (Type II of "7") 8-26 (Type I of "8") 8-26 (Type II of "8") 11-26 12-26 13-26 14-26	(Ed. note: These refer to the two shapes of the "7" and "8" in Illustration 318, following this chart.) Plates 9 and 10 are presently not known to exist.
1-28 (Type I of "1") 1-28 (Type II of "1") 2-28 (Type I of "2") 2-28 (Type II of "2") 1-29 2-29 3-29 4-29	(Ed. note: please refer to Illustration 319 for these types.)

*) In the first four printing plates since 1924, the left half of the metal block containing the plate serial number and the right half of the block showing the year are cut off.



Illus. 312

THE PASSING SCENE

Our "Member of the Month" in November 1987 was Joseph Stein. As a conscientious and devoted member, Joseph Stein departed from us on September 15, 1987. Because the editor did not learn this in time, it was too late to withdraw or alter the article. Articles are submitted at least six weeks before an issue goes to press and at least eight weeks before the readers receive it. Notwithstanding, several members have already expressed opinions that the article and its coincidental timing was a fitting tribute to the loyalty and integrity of a man whom the Society will miss. On behalf of its new President, the Board, and the membership at large, the Society extends its deep-felt sympathies to the widow and to the many close friends and relations he left behind.

Another long-time member has also passed from our scene on August 30, 1987. Milos Polivka, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of California, died at his Berkeley home at the age of 69. He came to the United States in 1938 to assist in the design and construction of the Czechoslovak Pavilion at the New York World's Fair. Holder of numerous awards for distinguished service to and innovative research in the concrete industry, he was an active educator at the University of California for over forty years. He is survived by his wife, a brother living on Long Island, a sister in Berkeley, two children, and six grandchildren. Our belated sympathies go out to his widow and entire family.

SLOVAKIA SOUNDINGS

By Edward Benchik

As chairman of the newly-organized Slovakia Section, I have written personal letters to most of you acquainting you of our work and asking you to assist in researching and developing this phase of Czechoslovak philately.

Some of you sent very good suggestions on what projects the Section should undertake. From them I have abstracted the following. Please let me know which ones you are interested in working on:

1. Major catalog numbers cross-reference bit of Slovakia (1939-1945).
2. Clarification of catalog numbers for Slovakia's early issues (1939-1940).
3. List and location of Slovakia's post offices.
4. Survey libraries for books about Slovakia.
5. Study of Slovakia's Scott number one: types, cancels, covers, useage, etc.
6. Postage rates of Slovakia (1939-1945).
7. The Rev. Jehličkovi Issue of 1921 and its background.
8. "Slovenský Stát" overprint on Austrian World War I stamps.

Let me know the particular project that you wish to become involved with and I will put you in touch with the coordinator of the group working on that project. For your information, our Board has approved the appointment of Mark Hross of Akron, Ohio, to assist me as Vice-Chairman. He and I will be in close touch and working with each of you on your selected projects.

As you know, the SPECIALIST is in need of good philatelic material for publication. The projects listed above are possibilities for long-range topics. But if you can write on any related subject in the meantime and send it to our editor for printing, it will fill an immediate need.

Here are two interesting tid-bits that might give you some writing ideas:

About one-fourth of the recent James Bond movie "The Living Daylights" takes place in Bratislava.

In its January 1987 issue, the National Geographic Magazine has a feature article entitled "Slovakia."

With a little imagination, any subject can be related to philately. Try it and test your skills at authorship.

PRAGA 88 ANTICIPATES LARGE U.S. PARTICIPATION

Over eighty qualified exhibitors have submitted preliminary applications which have been forwarded to the organizing committee in Prague by the U.S. Commissioner. The deadline for acceptance of applications has now passed, though strong. Over two hundred and fifty such requests have been received and responded to.

PRAGA 88 WORLD POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION will take place in Prague, Czechoslovakia, August 26–September 4, 1988.

Many of the finest exhibits owned by U.S. collectors will be seen there. The United States Postal Service has indicated its intention to participate and the Smithsonian Institution has been invited.

Travelers to PRAGA 88 are promised a memorable experience at a bargain price. Group flights are being arranged by TATRA TRAVEL BUREAU (1489 Second Ave., New York, NY 10021, Ph. 212 744-6185) at a round-trip price from New York at \$673 including tax. TATRA is also handling hotel reservations, visas, and tours inside Czechoslovakia. Hotel rooms are selling out quickly, and those interested are urged to contact TATRA immediately.

A limited number of copies of PRAGA 88 Bulletins #2 and #3 are still available, together with additional information previously distributed to frame applicants. These may be requested by sending \$1 in postage to the USA Commissioner, Mr. Henry Hahn, ARTECH CORP., 2901 Telestar Ct., Falls Church, VA 22042.

ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE SPECIALIST

These rates were announced effective September 1987.
They replace any and all rates published prior to that date.

Amount of Space	One	Three	Six	Ten
	Issue	Issues	Issues	Issues
Full page	\$35.00	\$90.00	\$160.00	\$250.00
Half page	20.00	50.00	90.00	140.00
Quarter page	12.00	30.00	50.00	80.00
Eighth page	8.00	20.00	35.00	55.00
Sixteenth page (4 lines across page) .	5.00	13.00	25.00	38.00
Thirty-second page (2 lines across page) .	3.00	8.00	15.00	23.00

1. All amounts are total cost.
2. Discount of 20% for members from total cost, if they so desire.
3. For the sixteenth page (4 lines) and thirty-second page (2 lines) ads, there are 70 characters per line for all letters, numbers and blank spaces between words.
4. Have your ad double spaced between lines and typed or legibly printed.
5. It is the advertiser's responsibility that his or her copy is correct (proper spelling, abbreviations, punctuation, etc.) as the ad will be printed exactly how it is received, in other words "as is."
6. All art work (cuts, illustrations, logos, etc.) is the responsibility of the advertizer to furnish. Art work must be camera ready.
7. Make your check payable in U.S. dollars to: "Society for Czechoslovak Philately."
8. Send your copy and payment to the Ad Manager:

Jack Benchik
P.O. Box 555
Notre Dame, IN 46556



THE SOURCE OF SLOVAKIA'S WATERMARKS

By E. Skovbo Jensen

In the tenth century, the Magyar horsemen broke out of their pastures north of the Black Sea and swept westward through Europe. After many triumphant battles, they met their master in the person of the German emperor, Otto the Great, who beat them in the Battle of Augsburg in 955 A.D. Thereupon, they settled down in Pannonia where they established a land of their own. This country we know today as Hungary, but the name of the Magyars remains on Hungarian stamps: "Magyar Posta."

Though they were of pagan origin, the Magyars came under Christian influence from many sides. They were ruled by princes, one of whom, Geyza, almost managed to unite the country under his leadership. Geyza converted to Christianity and invited German missionaries into the country. To strengthen the ties of friendship with the German, he let his son, István, marry a Bavarian princess.

István became the first real king of Hungary. We know him by the name Stephen, from whence St. Stephen's Day arose (August 20). According to legend, Stephen was under the strong influence of his Christian mother. When Geyza died in 997 A.D., Stephen, then about 28 years old, inherited his not-yet-established kingdom.

Though a major part of the Hungarian population was still pagan, Stephen was so impressed by the strong Christian influence in Western Europe, that he decided to convert Hungary and its people into a Christian kingdom with Christian education and upbringing.

The story goes on that in order to get the Pope's blessing of his plans in the Spring of 1000 A.D., Stephen sent a brilliant embassy staff to Rome under the leadership of the faithful, experienced, and indefatigable clergyman, Astrik. Pope Sylvester II, who was eagerly working to increase his papal powers, received the Hungarian envoys cordially and when he learned from Astrik the purpose of their mission, he exclaimed, "I am but apostolic, but thy master who sent thee here is, in truth, the apostle of Christ himself!"

He gladly complied with Stephen's wishes and granted him and his successors the right of calling themselves "Apostolic Kings" and to carry before them the apostolic dual cross as an emblem of their independent ecclesiastic authority. The Pope also presented Stephen with a crown as a symbol for all times of God's blessings upon the Hungarian Kingdom.

What has all this to do with Slovakia? The Slovakia we know as one of the provinces forming today's Czechoslovakia was then the northern outskirts of Hungary. It did not even lie within the Hungarian Kingdom, whereas Transylvania later did. From the beginning, Hungary was called the country of three mountains and four rivers. Those rivers include all of the Danube and its tributaries — the Theiss, the Drave, and the Save. The mountains are the Tatras, the Fátras, and the Mátras. They are all embodied in the coat of arms of the country — the mountains as three hills with the dual cross raised above them. Those familiar with Hungarian philately know that the cross on the hills appears as a watermark on Hungarian stamps in no less than five different varieties. When Czechoslovakia rose from the ruins of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the dual cross on the hills became the symbol of Slovakia's coat of arms and when Slovakia became a so-called "independent" nation in 1939, it used the symbol as a watermark on its stamps.

It should be noted that if you travel through present-day Slovakia, you will have no difficulty in finding the Tatras and the Fátras. They are not just individual mountains; they are mountain ranges and part of the complex of ranges that together form the huge Carpathians. The Matrás are not situated in Slovakia. They are a minor mountain group situated in northern Hungary in a straight line about 100 miles south of Gerlakovsky, the highest peak in the Tatras.

Sometimes it seems easier to gain knowledge about ancient history than of modern history. When and how it was decided that Czechoslovakia in 1919 — and later Slovakia in 1939 should use the cross on the hills as part of their respective coats of arms and as watermarks on their stamps is a mystery I have been unable to unravel. If you have any knowledge or access to literature on the subject, please let me know.

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NEW ISSUES

By G. M. van Zanten — Courtesy ARTIA

WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION PRAGA 1988 TECHNICAL TREASURES OF ČSSR

This set Publicises the forthcoming World Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1988.

- 1) 3 Kčs — Table telephone MB — Year 1894.
In black-brown, yellow and red.
- 2) 3 Kčs — Postal automobile — Year 1924.
In black, blue, grey, red and yellow.
- 3) 4 Kčs — Prague streetcar — Year 1900.
In black, brown, blue, green and yellow.
- 4) 4 Kčs — Locomotive — Year 1907.
In black, blue, light-red, yellow and brown-red.
- 5) 5 Kčs — Road steam-roller — Year 1936.
In black, blue, orange, yellow and green.

Each stamp bears the official emblem "PRAGA 1988."

Design and engraving of the whole issue was by Bedřich Housa.

The pictorial part of the stamps is 40×23mm and they were printed by the Post Office Printing works in Prague in rotary recess print combined with multicolored recess print.

a) in sheets of 25 stamps for each stamp.

b) in two sheets of 4 stamps (with the 3 Kčs & 4 Kčs stamps) with single-colored gutter centrally positioned in the sheet and complemented with the "PRAGA '88" emblem and text "World Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1988."

3 Kčs stamp: Postal automobile — year 1924.

gutter: Postal automobile — year 1930.

4 Kčs stamp: Locomotive — year 1907.

gutter: Railway postal wagon — year 1851.

c) in five sheets of 8 stamps (2×3 Kčs, 2×4 Kčs, 1×5 Kčs) with two single colored coupons in left and right side of the sheet, complemented with the PRAGA '88 emblem and text: "World Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1988."

stamp 3 Kčs: Table telephone MB — year 1894.

coupon theme: Historical telephone — year 1895.

stamp 3 Kčs: Postal automobile — year 1924.

coupon theme: Postal automobile — year 1919.

stamp 4 Kčs: Prague streetcar — year 1900.

coupon theme: Brno steam streetcar Caroline — year 1888.

stamp 4 Kčs: Locomotive — year 1907.

coupon theme: Steam locomotive for narrow gauge railway — year 1908.

stamp 5 Kčs: Road steamroller — year 1936.

coupon theme: Steam locomotive — year 1907.

With this set came three First Day Covers, which show:

- a) for the 3 Kčs stamp and the 4 Kčs stamp (automobile and locomotive).
a Hiller steam engine from about 1860.
- b) for the 3 Kčs stamp and the 4 Kčs stamp (telephone and streetcar)
an Exelsion phonograph from the year 1915.
- c) for the 5 Kčs stamp (steamroller)
a steam fire engine from the year 1884.





CZECHOSLOVAK MATHEMATICIANS AND PHYSICISTS

On July 6, 1987, a set of three 50h stamps was issued for the 125th anniversary of the Union of Czechoslovak mathematicians and physicists. Graphic design was by Josef Hamza. Size of the stamps is 49×19mm. They were printed by the United Printing Works in Prague, employing the rotary recess print, combined with multicolor recess in sheets of 50 pieces.

- 1/ 50h — With illustration of a symbolic motif, Prague calendar clock, computer graphic and example from a theoretical function. Engraver was Jan Mráček in colors black, gold, red, blue, green.
- 2/ 50h — Showing an engraving from the book by A. M. Mallet from 1672, field measurements with the help of a string, a symbolic motif from computer graphics, line and trajectory of Brown's movement. Engravers were Bedřich Housa and Miloš Ondráček. Colors: black, violet, green, yellow, ochre.
- 3/ 50h — Portraits of Josef Maximilian Petzval (1807–1891), Čeněk Strouhal (1850–1922), and Vojtěch Jarník (1897–1970). In the background is part of the mathematical analysis of the number theory. Engraver was Miloš Ondráček. Colors: dark red, violet, green, blue.



REDUCED

11TH BIENNIAL OF ILLUSTRATIONS-BRATISLAVA

On September 3, 1987, a set of 4 stamps was issued to commemorate the above event:

- 50 h — Features work from the Spanish artist Asun Balzola. Engraving by Jan Mráček.
- 1 Kčs — Is the work of the French artist Frédéric Clement. Engraving is by Bedřich Housa.
- 2 Kčs — By the Polish artist Elzbieta Gaudasińska. Engraving by Martin Činovský.
- 4 Kčs — Shows the work of the Yugoslav artist Maria Lucija Stupica. Engraving by Jiří Bouda.

Graphic lay-out of the set was by Zbyněk Kočvar. Rotary recess print combined with multicolor photogravure in sheets of 50 subjects, measuring 23×30mm. Also a special sheet with two 2 Kčs stamps was issued. Printing was by the Post Printing Office in Prague.



40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEREZÍN MONUMENT

A 50 h stamp issued on September 23 for the above commemoration shows a symbolic composition with motifs of an eternal flame and a tragic blossom with barbed wire.

Engraving was by Václav Fajt and design by Jiří Kodejš. Rotary recess print and multicolor photogravure were employed by the Post Printing Office in Prague to produce these 30×23mm stamps in sheets of 50 units.

During WW II the town of Terezín with a former fortress and later prison, was turned into the largest concentration camp in Bohemia. The concentration camp was set up in what was known as the Small Fortress. In 1941, the whole of Terezín was turned into a ghetto for Jews brought there by the Nazis from all the occupied European countries. There was also an underground war factory, called Richard. Thousands of people, Czechs as well as inhabitants of 22 other nations, died in the terrible conditions of the Small Fortress, the ghetto, and the factory. Some were shot, some tortured to death, and many fell victims to hardship and disease. There is a vast cemetery near the Small Fortress with the graves of these victims. In May 1947 the Terezín Monument was established there.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNICATIONS ORGANIZATION

A 4 Kcs stamp was issued on September 23 for the above event. The image of the stamp depicts communications but is dominated by the letters "O.S.S."

Engraving was by Jan Mráček and the design was by Vladimír Kovářík. Printed by rotary recess print combined with multicolor photogravure in sheets of 50 stamps measuring 30×23mm.



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