

# 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 - Praga '88

A. P. S. Unit 18

ISSN: 0526-5843

Vol. 52

JANUARY, 1990

No. 1, Whole No. 495

## FORGERIES AS PHILATELIC CURIOS

*(The February 1989 Specialist on page 6 contained some commentaries on counterfeits and forgeries insofar as they relate to postage stamps. Because of the rash of "fake" philatelic matter that passed through the hands of dealers as well as collectors this past year, there has been renewed interest in these curiosity items and collectors are becoming more aware and concerned in what is genuine and what is not. This issue presents the views of two of our members on some of this fraudulent philatelic material.)*

### A NEW HRADČANY COUNTERFEIT

*by Charles Chesloe, Pres. of S.C.P.*

Every collector has an inner desire to come upon or discover an item that is as yet unknown. To be able to unearth a philatelic find of such magnitude is surely the dream of every philatelist.

The other day I was rummaging through a stack of covers that I have been putting away for years and sorting them into various categories: Hradčany, 1920 issues, semi-postals, 1923-1928 issues, railroads, slogans, censored mail, etc. Throughout the covers were interspersed parcel clippings and entires. Glancing at the clipping illustrated here as Fig. 1, I noticed that the 300 h. was a rather shabby printing. I took out my magnifying glass and started to examine it carefully. Upon close observation I realized that the 300 h. was counterfeited to defraud the postal authorities and has been hitherto undetected.

Up until now, only the Vejprty (Weipert) forgeries were known to have defrauded the mails and they existed in denominations of 100h, and 200h and 300h. Here we have a counterfeit of the 300h used on a clipping from Sluknov (Schluckenau). I did not quite feel its impact until I started examining the item. The clipping itself has the regional bilingual (Czech-German) instructions and the genuine bilingual cancel. It is backstamped with the receiving cancel "Nixdorf 1" (Mikulašovice) as shown in Fig. 2. When examining the stamp itself as enlarged in Fig. 3, note the sandy-colored coarse-textured paper next to the smooth white paper of the genuine 40h. Note also the deformed "3" in the "300", the smudged lower frame line and the smudged illegible "Mucha"



Figure 1



Figure 2

signature in the lower left corner. The irregular formation of all the lettering, the poorly formed branches and their entry into the arched frame outlining the sky all attest to its lack of genuineness. In general, the whole printing is coarse and primitive.

After all these observed suspicions were established, I finally realized I had come upon a rarity of the first order. Which all goes to prove that with a little luck, a good magnifying

glass and some keen observation and deduction, one can still find something new among the old after nearly seventy years. Start searching! With a bit of that luck, you too may find something that has yet to be discovered.



Figure 3

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Published monthly except July and August - \$18.00 per year

Second Class Postage Paid at Lancaster, PA 17604

and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

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## FORGERIES

by Adolf Hujer

### I. AIRMAIL COVERS OF 1920

Czechoslovakia's leading expert on postage stamps, Ing. Jan Karásek of Brno, published an article in "FILATELIE" (1988, no. 9) dealing with some serious forgeries of airmail covers containing the first airmail issue of Czechoslovakia (1920). Later he published a second notable article in "FILATELIE" (1988, no. 21) about even more serious forgeries of the same airmail covers with the same airmail stamps. It certainly appears that a highly refined method of producing sophisticated forgeries of expensive Czechoslovak covers exists which evidently was met with at least a degree of success. Similar forgeries of expensive covers of the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate also appeared recently on the world's philatelic market.

It is surprising that so far no positive results have surfaced in the attempt to uncover this "ring" of criminal activity. This is true even though many of the top experts are probing for clues and evidence. While many rumors are circulating about some of the world's leading collectors, most of them seem unfounded and no concrete evidence has so far come to light implicating any of them. Meanwhile Ing. Karásek is making every effort to inform the philatelic public about new discoveries of fraud.

In July 1988, he received two airmail covers for expertization (see Fig. 1). Both were sold by a known philatelic vendor to another Czechoslovak collector of high repute. Both covers were found to be forgeries and it seems likely that other similar forgeries reached the hands of numerous defrauded collectors throughout the world.

The first cover was addressed to someone in Paris. It was franked with two stamps of the



Figure 1

Hradčany issue, the 50h and the 200h, and with the Hradčany imperf airmail overprinted 24 kčs on 500h. The cancellation read "PRAHA 1-19.XI.20.-6/4a." The French arrival cancellation on the front side read "PARIS DISTRIBUTION 21/II/20." The airmail label "Praha-Paříž" as well as the Registry label "Praha 1,852" were also on it.

The second cover was addressed to London. It was franked with one stamp, the Liberated Republic 250h and one perforated Hradčany airmail overprinted 28 kčs on 1000h. The cancellation read "PRAHA 1-30.III.21-XI-4a" and on the reverse side was this arrival cancellation: "REGISTERED WEST KENSINGTON, 1 AP 2 L." An airmail label "Praha-Londýn" as well as a registry label "Praha 1-3872" were affixed to the face side. Note that the addresses on both covers appear in the same handwriting. Furthermore, each cover is signed "Mrnák" in the lower left corner on the face of each cover.

Both letters were carefully expertized and compared with other original and genuine covers of the same period which were airmailed to Paris and London. After all known cancellations of PRAHA 1 of that era were compared, as well as arrival cancellations at Paris and London, including the expert's marks, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. All stamps on both covers are genuine.
2. All registry and airmail labels on both covers are genuine.
3. Both cancellations of PRAHA 1-4a are forged.
4. Both arrival cancellations of Paris and London are forged.
5. The expert's marks on both covers (Mrnák) are forged and are identical to forged signatures mentioned in Karásek's article in "FILATELIE" (1988, no.9, page 264).

It has been determined that these two covers were forged after World War II and are of the same vintage as many other similar covers. It leads one to suspect that a forgers' workshop was in operation mass-producing these covers and using the same stamps of 1920. Very likely the signature of Mrnák was added by another forger at a later date, presumably within the last five to ten years. Although Mrnák died over twenty years ago, his forged signature is well-known and is used repeatedly on many stamps and covers of Czechoslovakia. The periodical "FILATELIE" is continually alerting its readers to this situation and informing them of new forgeries of "Mrnák" as they appear.

## II. PERFORATION FORGERIES OF THE 1928 POSTAGE DUES

The first forgeries of perforations of Czechoslovak stamps appeared many years ago. The forgers tried to produce double perforations. These attempts were mostly in the area of line perforations.

An interesting bit of information appeared in the periodical "FILATELIE" (1989, no. 4). Written by the well-known Czech expert, Ing. Jan Karásek of Brno, his article deals with new attempts by forgers to produce rarities on the perforations of Czechoslovakia's 1928 postage due stamps. Those stamps were generally comb perforated 13 3/4 x 13 1/2. A rarity occurred in that once in a while a double perforation appeared at the first upper row of the sheet. When it did appear, it was only on a horizontal row and only with the same first row vertically. This is the so-called "saw perforation" caused by a double stroke of the perforating machine during a very slight movement of the sheet. If there was no movement at all in the sheet of stamps, there was no "saw perforation" even if a double



Figure 2

stroke took place. A double stroke on the lower row is even rarer and more exceptional. In both instances, the control consists of checking only the single holes in both upper and lower rows as well as the vertical rows and only on sheets which are comb perforated.

Fig. 2 shows the 50h red postage due stamp of 1928 with a forged

perforation at the lower margin. Next to it is the enlarged lower part of the stamp in which the holes of both lower perforations are clearly visible. The first or upper row has a genuine comb perf  $13 \frac{3}{4} \times 13 \frac{1}{2}$ , but the second or lower row at the margin has a forged perforation which was added later and is in fact a line perforation. Note the poor alignment and the irregularity of the holes. Absent the forgery, this would be a high-priced item. Absent an observing and knowledgeable collector, one might be tempted to pay a high price unaware that he was buying a forged item.

Is it that difficult to distinguish? Not really! The average collector should readily be able to spot the difference between a comb perf and a line perf. If he can do that, then it is simply a matter of logic that one postage stamp or even the same sheet cannot have both perforations. If in doubt, the collector should consult an expert and our Society has an expertizing committee just for that purpose.

As interest in Czechoslovak stamps from the 1918-1939 period increases, so does the danger of falling prey to forgers and their accomplices. When purchasing rare and even scarce material, collectors should be wary of those with whom they deal, especially when their credibility may be in doubt. When there is a pattern of questionable transactions on the part of the same dealer or vendor, that fact should be brought to the attention of proper philatelic authorities to deal with as the situation warrants.

### III. TETE BECHE POSTAGE DUES OF 1954

In this article in "FILATELIE" (1989, no. 4), Jan Karásek has expounded on the surprisingly skillful work of forgers in producing rarities among stamps of Czechoslovakia. In the past few years there has been such an outpouring of forged philatelic material, it almost appears as if there are "specialty workshops" operating under the noses of unsuspecting authorities. Or are they unsuspecting?

The latest "fakes" to be exposed are stamps of the 1954 postage due issue which were printed by rotary recess on the Stickney machine.

All were line perforated  $12 \frac{1}{2}$ . The second reprint of the same postage dues in 1963 was also by rotary recess but on the WIFAG machine. They were line perforated  $11 \frac{3}{4} \times 11 \frac{1}{4}$ . The forgery mentioned here relates only to the first issue (1954).

Some three years ago, a Czech collector asked two experts, Ing. Jan Karásek and Ing. J. Kulda to expertize what he believed to be a very special item of the 1954 set: a tete-beche of two different postage due values - 1.60 kčs and 5 kčs - as shown in Fig. 3. The owner also asked for a certified photo of the item. However, both experts concluded that the item was a masterfully produced forgery of a tete-beche, even though the stamps themselves were perfectly genuine. So artful and well-concealed was the forging process that even a few specialist-collectors were fooled and irritated by the experts' opinion. Had the experts not exposed the true nature of the item, it was scheduled to be shown at a world philatelic exhibition where it would surely have created a sensation. Fortunately no other experts signed it before Ing. Karásek and Ing. Kulda examined it. But unfortunately the owner took it upon himself to severely criticize Karásek and Kulda for their refusals to attest to its authenticity, much to his later dismay.

Things were quiet for a while. Then about a year ago another block of four appeared, this time

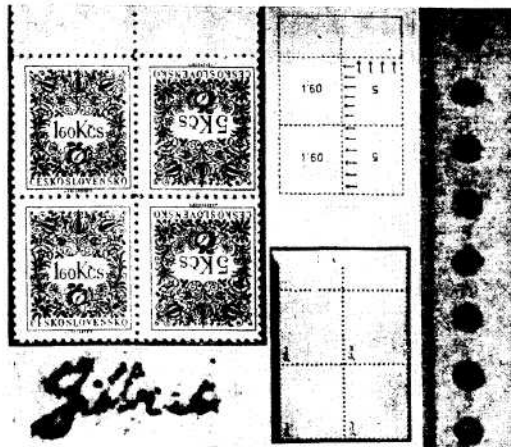


Figure 3

with the signature of Dr. Gilbert. Because of that fact, both Karásek and Kulda decided to publish their previous findings and thereby inform the philatelic community of what was going on.

Fig. 3 clearly demonstrates the meticulous work done at the forgers' workshop. The gluing together of two different values in an inverted position was accomplished at the points marked by arrows in both horizontal and vertical directions. This means that the 1.60 kčs. with its upper margin extending one space to the right had the inverted 5 kčs. glued into position as shown in the diagram. An enlargement on the right shows traces of the glue around the perforation which is visible under a strong light (though not in this reproduction). Since both photo enlarging and intense lighting is necessary to detect the forgery, the potential for non-detection is dangerously high. Fortunately a powerful magnification reveals differences in the size of the perf holes as well as other irregularities at those points where the two different papers of the stamps touch. Note that the holes themselves have differing sizes as well as differing shapes.

What surprised both experts was the fact that the block of four in question was signed with the mark of Gilbert on each stamp seen on the diagram. But an enlargement of his signature discloses that to be forged as well. It is not the first time that Gilbert's signature has been falsified. However, most of the stamps bearing his forged signature are from the period of 1918 to 1927. This is the first discovery of his forged signature on stamps issued after 1950. Keeping in mind that the "forgers' workshop" has his forged signature on file from prior use, it was easy to extract it for repeated application. This makes the art of philatelic deception that much more dangerous and should serve as a warning to specialists and general collectors alike.

In conclusion, let me say that the presence of *tete-beche* during the printing of stamps on a Stickney press is totally impossible because of the system employed by this machine. This is one more clue to the recognition of attempted fraud that is perpetrated by those who seek monetary gain at the expense of the unsuspecting.

#### ***EDITORIAL HINGES***

### **LOOKING BACK WHILE SAILING FORWARD**

Now that our big anniversary year is over, we reflect on the past and look to the future.

What was the purpose behind the organizing of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of North America - now known as the Society for Czechoslovak Philately Inc.? It was to have all the English speaking collectors of Czechoslovak philately in the western hemisphere unite in a single group to help foster, write, research, discuss and exhibit philatelic material relating to Czechoslovakia. Taking it no further than that, it was intended as a fun organization - a stamp club or series of clubs at which interested members would meet, socialize and exchange views and ideas on the merits of the various aspects of Czechoslovak philately. It has succeeded to that extent, though sometimes it has gone far beyond that and indulged itself in the politics of sectionalism. But by and large, it has afforded its members an outlet for publicizing their hobby and sharing its benefits with others of similar interests.

As for the future, the Society seeks to hold its own. In America where there are clear signs that younger people are no longer enamored with the concept that postage stamps are a work of art and worthy of the status they once held, the Society strives to infuse new blood into its active membership. This is probably the most important aspect of its survival. The other aspect is the Society's ability to communicate with its members. It is a fact that the philatelic family that communicates stays together. If the Society is to remain such a family, then it must learn to help its members understand what Czechoslovak stamps are all about and why they are so unique. Those members will then in turn divulge their new-found knowledge to non-members some of whom will ultimately decide to join the family.

Take as an example the case of H.A.H. who recently wrote a letter, portions of which are here abstracted:

"I've collected stamps for the past 30 years and during that time have attended numerous stamp shows. On Saturday, Sept. 16, 1989, I arrived at INDYPEX. . . and introduced myself to the Society's table sitters who received me warmly. In their enthusiasm to review the exhibit results, they invited me along with them. I came to meet 'Charlie' who spent about 30 minutes walking me through most of the exhibits, pointing out the highlights; noting the interesting and describing even the most elementary points of each exhibit. I then met 'Jack' who personally described his exhibit to me and defined his research and explained the purpose and scope of his Slovakia exhibit. I found his exhibit most fascinating since it strikes home on my ancestors' history.

"I inquired about the auction. . . and was honored to review the material with 'Charley'. Four hours later and a wealth of knowledge now filling my many previously stale brain cells, I couldn't believe that 6:30 p.m. was upon us. I bid my new friends a 'good banquet' that night and set sail for home. . . .

"I had the most wonderful day I ever had, all because of the Society members. They had spent almost their entire time instructing me, socializing with me, teaching me. I never have learned so much in so little time. . . And it was all due to our Society. They asked nothing in return - only seeing that an open mind and spirit was enjoying and absorbing every bit of philatelic knowledge that was flowing from them, especially Charley."

This sort of accolade is often heard when a new member makes personal contact with some of our members of senior standing. But that personal contact does not come as often as it used to. Too bad! A meeting similar to the one described above also happened at SEPAD. It took place between two of our members that came all the way from Great Britain to see the show on the one hand and several officers of our Society on the other. But at both INDYPEX and SEPAD, one vital factor was missing. These were isolated instances because so few of our members were actually present. One has to wonder what impelled two members from overseas to come see the show and participate at our meetings while other members, much closer to home, did not bother either to come or to submit exhibits. And this was on our 50th anniversary celebration! Is it apathy, indifference or just plain laziness?

If the attitude shown by a large segment of our membership in not becoming involved in the Society's events during the most important year of its existence is any indication of things to come, then there is a strong possibility that a Society centennial may never take place and without the S.C.P., Czechoslovak philately in this country will gradually dissipate into an asterisk at the bottom of one of the pages in Scott's Catalog, volume II.

### WHO IS DR. MIROSLAV NOVAK?

*Based on articles submitted by Ing. Antonin Černý and Ing. Josef Kozera*

His picture appears on two Czechoslovak stamps of the London series of 1945 (see Pofis #388 & 396; Scott #273 & 281). At that time, stamps were not



proliferating the way they are now and were not produced with the abundance of eggs in a termite colony. Why then did the post-war Czechoslovak postal authorities see fit to honor this man with not one, but two stamps in one issue?

Born in Litomyšl on May 5, 1906, Novák matriculated at Reálné Gymnasium from 1917 to 1925. From there he went to Charles University to study medicine. This exempted him from military service until 1931. Within a few months of embarking on his military career, he was elevated to second lieutenant in the Health Department. A year later he completed his training at Health and Pharmaceutical Officers' School in Prague and was transferred to the Health Service Reserve. Back

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in civilian life, he served as assistant in the Surgical Division of Niederl County Hospital in Kladno from 1932 to 1934. During that time, he was promoted to full lieutenant in the Health Services Reserve. In 1935, he became assistant in the Surgical and Orthopedic Division of Children's Hospital in Prague. A year later he was filling in as a substitute doctor in the Nose, Throat and Ear Ambulatorium at the County Health Insurance Department in Prague. Another promotion came in January 1937 and he was now Captain in the Reserve. Joining a group of officers in Health Services, he worked in the Nose, Throat and Ear Section of the Army Hospital "Na Hradčanech" in Prague. Having finished his clinical studies at the Doctors' Faculty, he left the military service in May 1939.

Novak's odyssey started in Belgrade in 1940 when he joined the Czechoslovak Army in exile. Within a month he found himself in Marseille and by May 15, he was in the Czechoslovak Army Camp in Agde, France as chief doctor in the Artillery Regiment. Shortly thereafter he was named as commander of a field station. He arrived in England on a boat named Mohamed Ali in July 1940 and was immediately assigned to a Czech Ambulance Brigade. Before the year's end, he was accepted into the Royal Air force at Kovington. But he soon resigned that post to return to the practice of medicine. He was appointed as a doctor by the Ministry of National Defense where he served through 1943. During that time he was attached to the Czechoslovak Division of Hammersmith Hospital in London.

His life ended abruptly in January 1944 when he was killed in an automobile accident in London. Because of his many rescue missions and his dual service in the Battle of Britain in helping to maintain British defenses and tending to the needs of the wounded, he was honored posthumously with the highest medal of merit and promoted to a major in the Health Services.

### THE CZECHOSLOVAK MUSIC SCENE OTAKAR ŠEVČÍK - MARCH 22, 1852 - JAN. 18, 1934

by Gerald M. van Zanten

Approximately 30 km. west of Písek in the small community of Horažďovice, Otakar Ševčík was born on March 22, 1852. He was destined to become one of the great violin teachers of his time.

His first lessons were given to him by his father. At age 14, he began his studies at the Prague Conservatory. After four years there, he conducted numerous orchestras in Vienna and Salzburg. In addition, he gave recitals in Prague, Vienna and other cities and towns.

In 1875, he became professor of violin studies at the Imperial School in Kiev where he remained until 1892. He then returned to Czechoslovakia and became professor at the Prague conservatory, a post he held for the next fourteen years. From that point on, his reputation as a renowned teacher grew rapidly and many of his pupils became outstanding performers.

In 1906, illness prevented him from carrying on in Prague and he returned to teach near his native village at Písek. Three years later, having recovered his health, he took on the professorship at the Vienna Music Academy until 1918; then at the Master School in Prague until 1921. From 1921 to 1923 and again from 1931 to 1932, he toured various countries to promote his teaching methods, spending most of his time in London and the U.S. Písek, however, was the center where pupils from all over the world came to get violin lessons from him mainly in summer sessions.

His theory was based on the half-tone system and made it distinctly easier for beginners. As one might expect, a new approach arouses controversy. Though there was considerable opposition to his teaching methods, others came to his defense and eventually his system prevailed. The number of pupils he taught bears witness to that fact. There were almost 5,000 of them, including such violinists as Marjorie Hayward, Pavel Kochanski and Erika Morini.

It is therefore a small wonder that the Czechoslovak Postal authorities saw fit to issue two stamps of identical design on the 100th anniversary of his birth on March 22, 1952. The 2 kčs. is



brown and had an issue of 420,000. The 3 kčs. is purple-red and had an issue of 3,290,000. Recess printed in sheets of 70 and perforated 12 1/2, the stamps were designed by V. Šilovsky and engraved by B. Roule.

A word about Ševčík's birthplace. Horažďovice is a charming old town that was once the regional center of Prácheň. Frequent fires and wars destroyed many of its old buildings. Only two town gates (the Pražská and the Prachatická), the castle, the Gothic church, a monastery and a few houses with interesting architecture have been preserved.

There is also an old synagogue and Jewish cemetery. The district museum at the castle contains relics from the town and outlying districts. The community was once famous for its prosperous pearl industry. Its chief products are sports equipment - in particular, sledges and ice hockey sticks.

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## THE LIBERATED REPUBLIC Third Installment

*(This is a continuation of the Allegory Chapter from Monografie II translated specially for this publication by Vladimír Králíček. We regret that due to limited space in the last two issues the third installment had to be postponed until now.)*

(Page 279)

III. 479



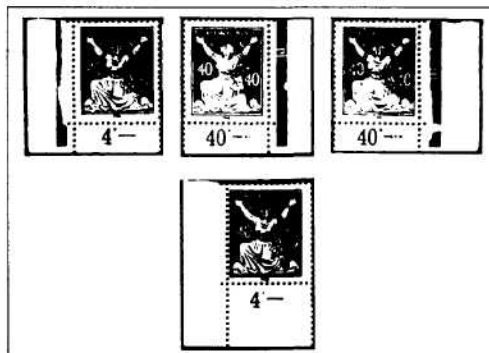
Table 54. 40h Printing Plates

Type	Plate Marking	Remarks
1	4,-- decimal dash once interrupted and 40,- with decimal point, with sheet margin frame 4,-- decimal dash once interrupted and 40,- without decimal point, with sheet margin frame 4, -- decimal dash uninterrupted and 40, - without decimal point, with sheet margin frame	
2	without marking and sheet margin frame without marking and with sheet margin frame	
	without marking or row control numbers and with sheet margin frame	2 plates for the stamp booklets (tete-beche)
	4, -- decimal dash once interrupted without sheet margin frame 4, - decimal dash uninterrupted and 8, -- decimal dash twice interrupted at the numeral, without sheet margin frame 40, -- decimal dash twice uninterrupted, with sheet margin frame 40, --- decimal dash twice interrupted, two notches in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 40, --- decimal dash twice interrupted, sheet margin frame damaged 40, --- decimal dash twice interrupted, three notches in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp,	
	single horizontal notch in the sheet margin frame in front of the 91st stamp two horizontal notches in the sheet margin frame in front of the 91st stamp	

(Page 280)



III. 480



III. 481

(Page 281)

Table 55. 50h (Red) Printing Plates

Plate Markings	Remarks
5, - decimal dash uninterrupted, without marking, without sheet margin frame 5, -- decimal dash once interrupted, without sheet margin frame	
without any marking	



III. 482



III. 483



III. 484

Footnote:

During the final editing, a block of four 50h red stamps from the lower right corner of the sheet was discovered with complete double margin frame (submitted by Jiří Knapp).

Table 56. 50h Yellowgreen Printing Plate

Plate Markings	Remarks
without markings, no sheet margin frame without markings, with sheet margin frame	
without markings or row control numbers, with sheet margin frame	2 plates for the stamp booklets (tete-beche)
25, - decimal dot missing (under the 95th stamp; without sheet margin frame) 10, -- decimal dash once interrupted (under the 92nd stamp) 30, -- decimal dash once interrupted (under the 100th stamp) in front of the 91st stamp two white spots in the sheet margin frame two vertical notches in the left sheet margin frame	
white dot in the sheet margin frame (in front of the 91st stamp) two white dots in the sheet margin frame (in front of the 91st stamp), 50, -- decimal dash once interrupted inscription in the horizontal colored frame under the 91st and 92nd stamp NAKLAD, but partly cut off	not known if the three markings are plate markings
3 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp  4 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 5 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 6 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp	arabic numerals in various positions in the sheet margin frame
7 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 8 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 9 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 10 in the sheet margin frame at the 90th and 100th stamp	
10/10 in the left sheet margin frame at the 91st stamp and in the right frame at the 100th stamp 11 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 12 in the sheet margin frame at the 100th stamp 13 in the sheet margin frame left of the 91st and right of the 100th stamp (in mirrored image)	
1 - 24                      2 - 24 3 - 24                      4 - 24 5 - 24                      6 - 24 7 - 24                      8 - 24	
24 - 9                      24 - 10 24 - 11                     24 - 12	since 1924, serial number and year
13 - 24                     14 - 24 15 - 24                     16 - 24	

SCHEDULE OF NEW ISSUES FOR 1990						
MONTH DAY	NAME OF SET	NO. OF STAMPS	DIMEN SIONS	SIZE	NO. OF FDC'S	PRINT
JANUARY Mon. Jan. 9	International Year of Literacy (UNO, UNESCO)	1	1.00 Kčs	19 X 23	1	Wifag
Tues. Jan. 9	<b>Anniversaries of Famous Personalities</b> Karel Čapek (100 years) Émile Zola (150 years) Jaroslav Heyrovský (100 years) Bohuslav Martinů (100 years) V.I. Lenin (120 years)	5	50 h 2.00 Kčs 3.00 Kčs 10.00 Kčs 1.00 Kčs		1 1 1	Wifag Wifag Wifag
FEBRUARY Thurs. Feb. 1	Men's Handball World Championship in Czech.	1	50 h	30 X 23	1	Wifag
Fri. Feb. 2	Coats of arms of Czech. Towns	4	50 h 50 h 50 h 50 h	19 X 23	1 1 1 1	Wifag
March Thurs. Mar. 1	Garden flowers	4	50 h 1.00 Kčs 3.00 Kčs 5.00 Kčs	23 X 30	2	Wifag
APRIL Fri. April 27	Centenary of the first May Day Celebrations	1	3.00 Kčs	20 X 23	1	Wifag
MAY Sat. May 5	45th anniversary of the culmination of the national liberation struggle of the Czechoslovak people and the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army	1	3.00 Kč	40 X 23	1	Wifag
	18th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia	2	50 h 1.00 Kčs	30 X 23	1	Wifag
Sun. May 6	150 years of the postage stamp	1	7.00 Kčs Miniature Sheet	23 X 30	1	Waite
Thurs. May 16	Prague Castle	2	2.00 Kčs 3.00 Kčs	26 X 40	1	Waite

SCHEDULE ON NEW ISSUES FOR 1990						
MONTH DAY	NAME OF SET	NO. OF STAMPS	DIMEN SIONS	SIZE	NO. OF FDC'S	PRINT
JUNE Mon. June 4	Czechoslovak Spartakiad 1990	2	50 h	23 X 30	2	Wifag
Thurs. Jun 21	15th anniversary of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe - Europe, our common home	1	7.00 Kčs	40 X 26	1	Waite
JULY Mon. July 2	World dog show BRNO 1990	5	50 h 1.00 Kčs 2.00 Kčs 4.00 Kčs 7.00 Kčs	40 X 23	3	Wifag
AUGUST Wed. Aug. 29	Bratislava historical motifs	2	3.00 Kčs 4.00 Kčs	40 X 26	1	Waite
SEPTEMBER Fri. Sept. 7	Centenary of the Grand Pardubice Steeplechase	3	50 h 2.00 Kčs 4.00 Kčs	40 X 23	2	Wifag
OCTOBER Mon. Oct. 1	Wild Life Preservation — protected mammals	4	50 h 1.00 Kčs 4.00 Kčs 5.00 Kčs	40 X 23	2	Wifag
NOVEMBER Tues. Nov. 27	Works of art on stamps	5	2.00 Kčz 3.00 Kčs 4.00 Kčs 5.00 Kčs 7.00 Kčs	50 X 40	1 1 1 1 1	Waite
DECEMBER Tues. Dec. 18	Day of Czechoslovak the Postage Stamp	1	1.00 Kčs	49 X 49	1	Wifag
<p><i>In view of recent developments in Czechoslovakia, your editor wonders how many of these stamps, especially the ones in April, and May will actually be issued.</i></p>						

### Membership Enrollment and Dues

This is a reminder to those members who have not yet paid their 1990 dues that you have till the end of February to pay your dues without imposition of a reinstatement fee. Besides avoiding such a fee, timely payment by you can help the Society put your dues to work immediately by providing you with continued uninterrupted services in the form of this prize-winning quality publication, a circuit that is always full of good philatelic material and participation in some of the country's major shows. So send in your dues now if you haven't done so already. Additional contributions of funds over and above your dues will be gratefully accepted and are tax deductible.

To those who have access to the Specialist and enjoy reading it and who are not members or had allowed their membership to lapse, this is an open invitation to join now and reap the full benefits of what is perhaps the world's most active organization dealing exclusively in Czechoslovak philately. Please fill out the Application for Membership and send in to our treasurer along with your dues check for one year. A membership year starts on January 1 and ends December 31 regardless of when dues are paid. Therefore this is the best time - the most economical time - for new members to join. It is one investment which can bring you a profitable return while providing you with hours of sophisticated fun.

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#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To: Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I hereby apply for membership in the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc. and agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Society. I enclose my dues for 1989 consisting of:

\$18.00 for annual dues which includes 1 year's subscription to *The Czechoslovak Specialist*

\$30.00 for annual dues and Patron Membership which entitles the member to a bound volume of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*.

\$3.00 for Youth Membership — limited to persons under 18 years of age. \*

(Foreign members add \$5.00 for surface or \$10.00 for airmail postage.)

(Please print or type)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Collecting Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership in other societies: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Recommended by \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Applicants for Youth membership give date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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