



# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



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Official Bi-Monthly Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately,  
an Incorporated Non-Profit Organization  
Winner of Numerous Philatelic Literature Awards

A.P.S. Unit 18

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No. 2, Whole No. 572

## SELL - SWAP - WANT

I am re-initiating a feature column that used to be a staple of the **SPECIALIST** many years ago (in the 1970's). I am hoping that it will help members find philatelic items that they need or to sell/swap those that they have in excess -- **AND, it is all free!**

Every member is entitled to one free 15 word ad each calendar year which will run in the column headed the way this one is. Your name and address does not count towards the 15 words. Send your ad (please type or print it so there are no misunderstandings) to me at the address or e-mail address found on page two of every issue.

EXAMPLES of ads that could have run in the past are:

**WANTED:** Buy International Reply Coupons all countries.

L. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

**SELL:** Hard cover bound copies of 1951-53 issues of **SPECIALIST**, \$15 postpaid.

L. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

**SWAP:** Interested in Hradčany perf/imperf sheets, covers, freaks, anything -- especially 25h blue. L. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

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**SOCIETY SALES CIRCUIT**

Do you have excess philatelic materials that you would like to sell? Or maybe you wish to buy? We are always looking for new members and materials. Why not contact our circuit sales manager, Alan Hoover, for details on how to submit material to the circuit or participate as a buyer. Just remember to price your materials reasonably for quick results. The circuit is currently going out to about 25 of our members and is experiencing tremendous sales interest because of the great variety of materials and the reasonable prices.

Alan can be reached at 6070 Poplar Spring Drive, Norcross, GA 30092-1383 or send him an e-mail for details at: [h.alan.hoover@lycosmail.com](mailto:h.alan.hoover@lycosmail.com). You can also download the rules and regulations of the sales circuit from our Society website at: [www.czechoslovakphilately.com](http://www.czechoslovakphilately.com) if you are an Internet user.

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*All officers and board members serve the Society voluntarily  
and without compensation.*

## PRAGUE 1930 – THIRD WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL WORLD GAMES

by Piero Santangelo  
trans. by Peter Z. Kleskovic

Women's sports activities were born at the same time (at the beginning of the past century) as the struggle for the emancipation of women.

The first real initiative belongs to Madame Alice Millat who founded the "Federation Féminine Sportive de France", and later the "Federation Sportive Féminine International" which inaugurated the First Women's World Games in Paris on August 20, 1922. The next Games took place in Göteborg in 1926, Prague in 1930, and finally London in 1934 (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - Post card with last day's cancel and rectangular remembrance handstamp

During the proceedings of the 1925 Olympic Congress in Prague, discussions were held regarding the issue of women's participation in international competition -- which up to that time had been the exclusive domain of men (Fig. 2).

At the Amsterdam Olympic Games in 1928, women were allowed to participate only in the light athletic disciplines. Not until the 1930's (after the CIO Congress in Berlin in 1930, Fig. 3) did the Olympic Committee extend women's participation outside the light athletics, i.e., to fencing, swimming, and later to all the other sporting disciplines.

During September 6 - 8, 1930, the Third Women's World Games took place in Prague with female athlete participants from 17 countries. They competed in the following disciplines: light athletics, basketball, volleyball, fencing, 4 mm and 6 mm rifle shooting, 6 mm pistol shooting, and also for the first time internationally in the kayak and in Swedish canoe racing.

This event was followed at that time in Czechoslovakia with great enthusiasm,

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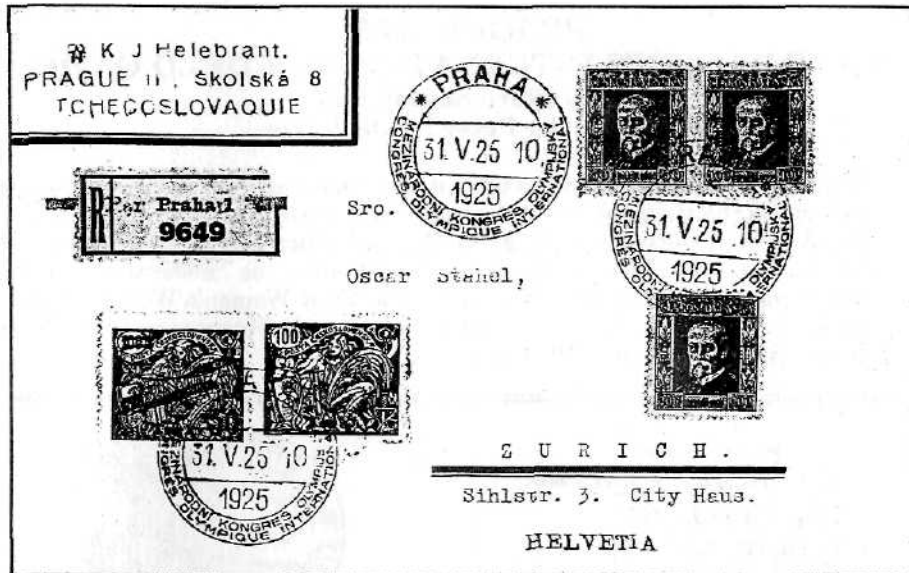


Fig. 2 - Cover with International Olympic Congress, Prague 1925 cancel

especially in Prague, where the Games took place. Included here are quotes from articles on pages 6 and 7 of *Pestrý Týden* magazine, no. 37 from September 13, 1930:

"Third Women's World Games in Prague"

Prague -- a small city in the eyes of the world, but a great and glorious one in the tradition and development of sports -- was entrusted with the organization of the women's third games; it was as a consequence of the world class of our female champions who had achieved lead standing -- in fact the names of Czechoslovak women were for a long time among the world record holders. However, other countries quickly not only caught up with us, but surpassed us, so that we came away -- with a few exceptions -- being unsuccessful in most of the competitions. It would be a mistake however to be disheartened, because by trying hard through strong-willed effort, training, dietary regimen, and with the appropriate support, we must again achieve world esteem.

The games themselves were a great spectacle which will never again be seen in Prague by our generation -- the entrance of the competitors, the playing of the national anthems, the volleys, the introductory addresses, the



Fig. 3 - Piece with Olympic Congress, Berlin 1930 cancel

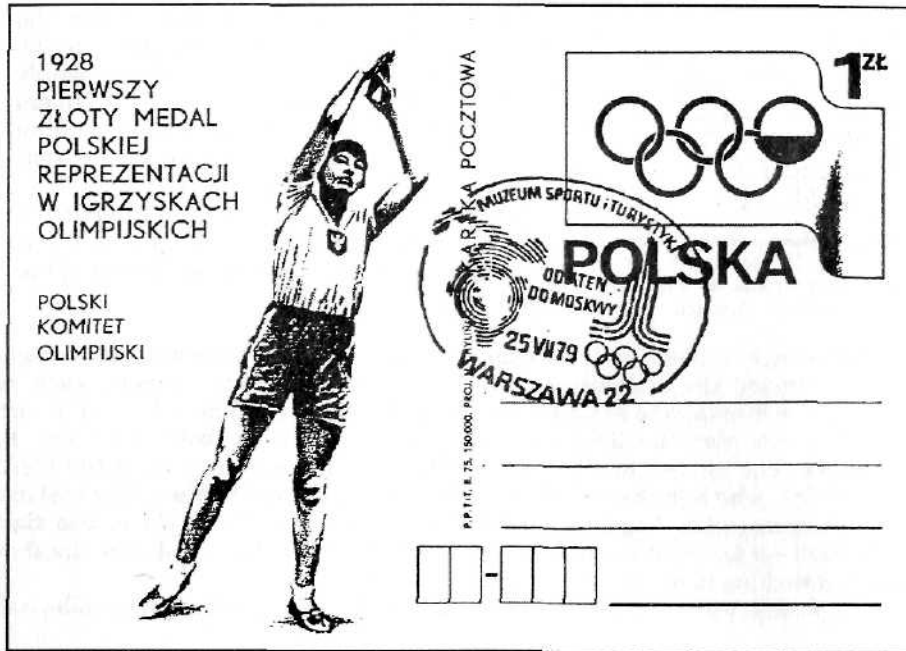


Fig. 4 - Postal card showing Halina Konopacka

release of thousands of pigeons as a sign that the games have opened -- all very deeply penetrated the hearts and memories of the thousands of



Fig. 5 - Cover commemorating 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kinue Hitomi's death



Fig. 6 - Staniława  
Walasiewiczówna at 1932 Los  
Angeles Olympics.

spectators. And what a spectacle, when the national flag of the victors first went up the flagstaff! It was the Germans, whose flag joyfully fluttered on the flagstaff and whose national anthem first resounded throughout the stadium as a signal of Ms. Heublein's victory. In that moment the people of Prague gazed longingly at the victor's standard with the silent question of whether our flag will rise upward as a sign that we also prevailed over the representatives of the 17 nations . . .

In the light athletic competitions the athletes participating were of the highest caliber. Among the competitors were even Olympic Game winners, such as -- Poland's Konopacka, who won the discus (Fig. 4); Japan's Hitomi, who won the broad jump and was also the holder of many world records in both track and field disciplines (Fig. 5); and finally Poland's Walasiewiczówna, known in the USA as Stella Walsh, who won the 60, 100, and 200 meter runs and won a gold medal in the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles (Fig. 6). The femininity of Stella Walsh was always in question -- a fact confirmed after her death by an autopsy -- and thus she should have had nothing to do with the women's competitions.

In closing, we can say that the Czechoslovak participants won in volleyball.

### Farewells

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the recent passing of our member, Richard Miller (member 1417P), on February 1. We extend our sincerest sympathies to his wife, Hillary, and the entire Miller family.

It is also with regret that we belatedly inform you of the passing last year of several of our Czech philatelic brethren, Ing. Hynek Ondrášek and Zdeněk Molíš. Our condolences to their families.

### ADVERTISEMENT

#### INVITATION TO AN AUCTION

Semiannual auctions of entires, postal stationery and postal history,  
held late winter and late summer yearly.

Each time with 2,200+ items, mostly from Czechoslovak related areas.

All in color with 550+ illustrations.

Catalogs are available on request to any member in January and September of  
each year. Auction catalog is also available on the INTERNET.

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Member of SCP

## *President's Corner*

As reported last month, CHICAGOPEX 2001 was a very successful show for our Society's exhibitors. Once again, I encourage our members to exhibit their philatelic interests at their local shows. When you share your collecting interests in this manner, the rest of us can learn from your philatelic research, and you advertise our area of collecting to others. This often leads to new members for our Society, which is the lifeblood of any such organization.

A summary of the officers' reports and the results from the Society's Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with CHICAGOPEX follow:

**Elections.** The Board reelected Rich Palaschak as President, Robert Koschalk as Vice President, Tom Cossaboom as Secretary, and Ed Lehecka as Treasurer. All appointed officers of the Society agreed to continue in their respective positions. All officers of the Society are volunteers and receive no payment for their services.

**Board of Directors.** It is with regret that I inform you that James "Cap" Carone had to resign his position on the Board of Directors for personal reasons. In accordance with our By-Laws, I've asked Karl Ruzicka to serve out Cap's unexpired term.

**Honorary Member.** The Board of Directors voted to award Jaroslav Verner an Honorary Membership in the Society in recognition of his many contributions to our Society and to Czechoslovak philately.

**Membership.** Membership in the Society declined during the last year. This prompted the Board to create a new appointed position, Membership Chairman, to focus our efforts for attracting and retaining Society members. We welcome any ideas that you have for advertising our Society and for any potential Society projects that would be of interest to you personally.

**Financial.** The Society still enjoys a healthy financial status. Although our membership dues no longer pay for the complete cost of publishing and mailing the SPECIALIST, which has been our goal for many years, the income generated from book sales and the stamp circuit sales have allowed the Society to maintain the same membership dues for the past thirteen years. So long as the Society's finances remain healthy, the Board decided that the dues will remain as they are.

**SPECIALIST.** The SPECIALIST continues to provide informative articles on our area of philatelic interest, but can always use more articles. Please consider sharing your philatelic knowledge with the rest of us by contributing articles on your research and collecting interests. The SPECIALIST continues to be a respected philatelic publication as evidenced by the award of a Silver Medal with which it was honored at APS Stampshow 2001. Our thanks to Lou Svoboda for pulling together each issue of the SPECIALIST.

**Library.** The Library now has over 360 individual items in its holdings and continues to grow each month as new publications are donated by our members or purchased by the Society. If you are looking for information on a particular topic, the Librarian can often suggest books that may assist you. At the Librarian's recommendation, the Board approved two changes in the Library's loan procedures. First, when borrowing items from the Library, a Society member is no longer required to submit a deposit with his request; this change was prompted by a

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suggestion from one of our members. Secondly, there is no charge for borrowing books from the Library. The borrower is still responsible for reimbursing the Society for the postage cost to mail the books to him, but that payment is to be made to the Librarian when returning the books to the Library. The new procedures have been posted on the Society web site and are detailed elsewhere in this issue.

Sale of SPECIALISTS. Society members purchased nearly 1000 back issues of the SPECIALIST during 2000 and over three hundred during 2001. The Society was also able to purchase an older group of SPECIALISTS that will be used to fill some members' want lists.

Publications. The Society has, once again, enjoyed a good year of publication sales to its members. Those sales resulted in a net profit which is sufficient to offset the increased costs of providing the SPECIALIST to our membership.

Sales Circuits. The stamp circuits continue to generate revenue for our Society while providing some excellent material to our circuit members. Alan Hoover is always looking for more circuit books so consider placing your duplicates into the Circuit.

Web Site. The Society web site was honored last year with the 2001 Three Star Award from FIP. Congratulations to our Webmeister, Lida Verner, and her principal taskmaster, Jerry Verner, for their dedication to this task. As reported in the Sep/Oct 2001 SPECIALIST, the Society now has its own domain name, [www.czechoslovakphilately.com](http://www.czechoslovakphilately.com). I strongly encourage those of you with access to the Internet to visit the site and see what a super effort has occurred in setting it up and maintaining it with informative material.

SPECIALIST Index. The 1939-1999 draft Index has been edited by Lou Svoboda and is now ready for publication. The Board decided to offer the Index both in hard copy and on a compact disc (CD). We hope to publish the Index during 2002.

Society Award Certificate. The Board approved the certificate design prepared by Olech Wyslotsky and printed by Jerry Verner. The certificate will accompany the award of the Society's medals in conjunction with our annual convention. Our thanks to Olech, once again, for sharing his talents for the benefit of the Society. And only those who have ever struggled with a computer to get the alignment of a design correct can truly appreciate the turmoil that Jerry encountered as he attempted to print the certificates.

Future Conventions:

-- 2002: The Society's annual convention will be held in conjunction with NAPEX 2002, which is scheduled for the Washington, D.C. area from May 31 - June 2, 2002. Henry Hahn is the Society's point of contact for our activities during the show. Look for details of our Society's activities in the next issue of the SPECIALIST.

-- 2003: The Society will meet during WESTPEX from 25 - 27 April. We are still looking for one of our members living in the San Francisco area to assist in coordinating our participation in this show. Please contact me if you are willing to help the Society in this regard.

-- 2004: The Society will meet in Philadelphia. Again, we need one of our local members to assist us in coordinating our participation in this show. Please contact me if you are willing to help us.

-- 2005: The Society plans to meet in Minneapolis. Chuck Rehman has volunteered to coordinate our Society's participation in this new venue.



- 2006: The Board has tentatively decided to meet in conjunction with WASHINGTON 2006, which is the next FIP Show scheduled for the United States.
- 2007: The Board has tentatively decided to participate, along with other Slavic philatelic societies, in a Pan-Slavic Show hosted by CHICAGOPEX 2007.
- 2008: The Board has tentatively decided to meet in the Czech Republic during PRAHA 2008.

The years ahead will have their share of challenges for our Society. None of them is more important to our long term viability than growing our Society's membership, and that requires all of us to contribute to the vitality of our Society through our participation in its activities and actively seeking new members for our organization. I ask each of you to help your Society continue to be the dynamic, respected organization that it has become since it began over 62 years ago.

See you at NAPEX!

Richard Palaschak  
President



**WALACHIAN KINGDOM**  
by Karel Holoubek  
Savoy Horvath  
trans. by Peter Kleskovic

Surely you have read about, or heard about, the Walachian Kingdom and also about the exponent of this "monarchy", Walachian King Bolek Polívka. This modern monarchy has already existed for quite a while. Certainly you know the names of some other of the officials. You have also heard about the ceremonial arrival

Figure 1: Walachia -- the east central border area of Moravia

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of the Walachian King at the World Exhibition in Hannover.

However, not many of you know of the activities which the representatives of this regional monarchy dreamed up for the popularization of this kingdom. One of these even concerns us, but more about that later.

Certainly, most important for defining the location of this "state" is the issuance of a map of its territory. This map is a priority for foreigners who do not know where the territory of Walachia is to be found (Fig. 1). This map is complemented by a guide from the map originators. They printed instructions -- in foreign languages, of course -- for those who would like to emigrate into this kingdom.

Every state, and therefore even this kingdom, must have its own currency. The Walachians call their currency "Jurovalšár's" and even mint the correspondingly appropriate coins (Fig. 2). For monetary dealings they have established exchange rates with all of the world's currencies. The citizens of the kingdom are governed by their own charter of rights and freedoms; they have their own passport (Fig. 3); for the identification of their cars, they have their own stickers. They also have their own flag and coat

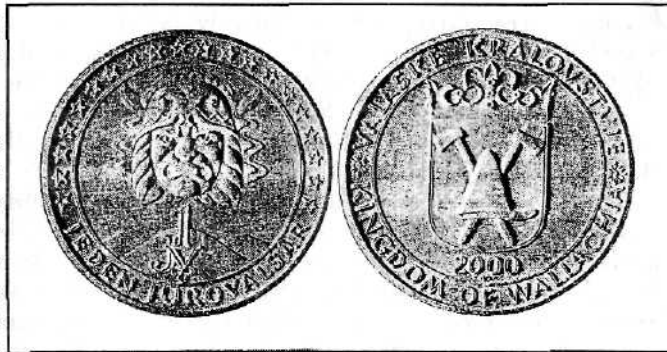


Figure 2: The front and back of the 1JV (Jurovalšár) coin

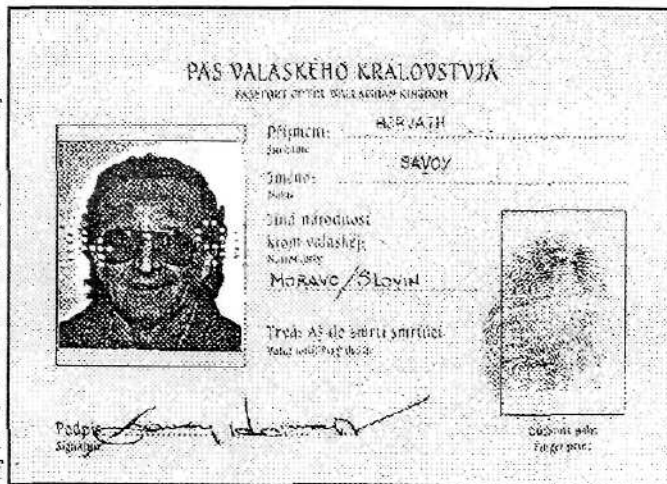


Figure 3: The Walachian passport of one of its noted citizens, Savoy Horvath



Figure 4: The landing of the Walachian cosmonaut -- Jul 2000



Figure 5: The founding of the Consulate in Scotland -- Nov 2000

of arms.

From our point of view, however, the most interesting thing is the existence of the royal postal service and its stamps. It uses postal pigeons and offers several kinds of different services. Covers must be franked with these stamps in order to be moved via the royal postal service. Meanwhile, the first set of issued stamps publicizes the development of the kingdom to the outside world (Fig. 4, 5). The announced second set should be devoted to publicizing places of interest and commemoration.

To introduce you to (and for you to have an idea in what spirit this whole "kingdom" is governed), we are reprinting copies of their stamps as well as the complete set of instructions regarding the functioning of their postal service which offers several basic services. On the margin of the stamp can be found an explanation of what is portrayed.

### Services of the Pigeon Post of the Walachian Kingdom

Our first class pigeons will unreliably deliver your mail to the entire world. We have at our disposal an enormous quantity of professional postal pigeons (we ourselves don't even know how many) of all possible capabilities, incapacities, deficiencies, and bad habits.

-- Service: PIGEON. Your mail will be carried by an unreliable, impatient and arrogant pigeon. It is characterized by somewhat louder cooing, by sometimes losing its bearings, and by dropping things during flight.

-- Service: EXPRESS PIGEON. A lazy pigeon which, while in the air, loafs around with doves. Your mail can expect a truly long trip with an uncertain fate . . .

-- Service: EXPRESS TURBO PIGEON. The laziest of our pigeons, it would rather walk than to strain its wings. It sleeps 20 hours a day, and the remainder of the day it lounges with the doves. It likes Slivovitz (plum brandy). Due to its rotational marking-time-in-place, there arose the saying "Točí se jako holub na báni" (turning around like a pigeon on a dome/strutting about).

-- Service: PERSONAL DELIVERY PIGEON. This pigeon differs considerably from that of the previous ones. It does not wait for instructions, and takes off on its own discretion. It is very indiscreet and conspicuous; to the greatest extent every sender or recipient tries to hide it well. A favorite service especially in the winter and when one has a cold.

-- Service: BAKED PIGEON. Within PO Boxes, the so-called baked and cooked pigeon, that does what it wants, but best of all it likes chaos and disorder. Mistakenly, some believe that it will fly all the way into their "mouth".

-- Service: ASPHALT PIGEON. Confidentially, we call it the "propelled pigeon". It flies fast and for a short time. Excellent only for transporting mail over short distances.

The publicity flier for the pigeon post closes with the following information:

- We are offering you only disadvantages!!!
- You do not need to concern yourself that your mail will reach the addressee!
- You can be assured that everything will be delivered late and at least slightly damaged!

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Figure 6: A postal card with the stamp properly applied

- You have to pay for unreliability!
- You are not so poor that you cannot allow yourself to utilize our expensive services!
- Utilize the Pigeon postal service of our Walachian Kingdom!
- A reliably unreliable service is here for you!

Instructions for the use of the pigeon mail stamps of the Walachian Kingdom

1. The stamp must be carefully pulled off or torn out.
2. Generously lick the glued side of the stamp.
3. Affix it in the lower left hand corner (Fig 6).
4. Throw it into the pigeon-mail coup with the picture postcard.
5. Wait to see if it arrives.

All of this ends with a warning: These are not stamps or postal stationery of the Czech or other postal administrations, and they cannot be used for payment of any postal services.

Thus, this is the first time that we have been able to document a special postal service. You can obtain additional information about other Pigeon Post services in the Information Center of the Walachian Kingdom in Frenštát and in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm -- whom we here thank.

## WORLD OF NEW ISSUES – CZECH REPUBLIC

by Denise McCarty



Fig. 1

The Czech Republic pays tribute to artist and stamp designer Max Švabinsky on a new stamp in its Tradition of Czech Stamp Production series (Fig. 1).

This series, which started in 1996, takes a look at the artwork and artists behind Czechoslovakia's early stamps. The republic releases one stamp in this series each year on Jan. 20.

The 5.40-koruna stamp issued this year features a stamp-on-stamp design of the 1938 2Kč 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence stamp (Scott 253)(Fig. 2).



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Švabinsky designed this stamp, which shows an allegorical figure of the republic with a bird in one hand and a branch in the other. Buildings are shown in the background.

The same design appears on a 3Kč stamp (254)(Fig. 3) and a semipostal souvenir sheet (B153)(Fig. 4).

Bohumil Heinz engraved the original design. His name appears along with Švabinsky's on the 5.40Kč commemorative stamp.

Bedřich Housa designed and engraved the new commemorative. The Post Printing House in Prague produced it by a combination of intaglio and gravure in sheets of 30 and in booklets of eight stamps and four labels.

In addition to the aforementioned 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence set, Švabinsky created designs for around 70 other stamps. About two-thirds of these designs were portraits, according to information on Gerhard Batz' The Stamp Gallery of Czech and Slovak Graphic Art web site.



Fig. 4

This site can be found at:

<http://home.t-online.de/home/batz.hausen/titel.htm>

The site also reports that Švabinsky's first design was for the 1920 President Thomas Garrigue Masaryk stamps (Scott 61-63)(Fig. 5).

Švabinsky, who lived from 1873 to 1962, is known for his paintings, drawings and portraits, as well as for his many stamp designs. He received many honors for his work and was even commemorated on a postage stamp while still alive.

A 1.60Kč stamp was issued Aug. 20, 1958, for his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday (877)(Fig. 6).



The stamp reproduces his 1931 work *The Poet and the Muse*.  
 In addition, Czechoslovakia issued stamps remembering the first anniversary of his death in 1963 (1165)(Fig. 7) and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in 1973 (1902-06)(Fig. 8).

[Ed. Note: The SPECIALIST is pleased to reprint the preceding article from Linn's Stamp News, February 4, 2002 with permission of the editor and the author. "Copyright 2002 Linn's Stamp News, Sidney, Ohio, USA. Reprinted with permission." Figures 2-8 were added by the editor with the permission of Linn's.]



### STAMP CONNECTIONS by Gerald M. van Zanten



You may recall from the New Issues column of the July/August 2001 issue of the SPECIALIST (pp 35-36), the story about the beautiful miniature sheet (bearing a single 50 Kč stamp) entitled "CZECH BAROQUE ART" -- a work by Václav Vavřinec Reiner.

In the story, no mention is made of the Prague Castle issue of 1989 in which the 3 Kčs value shows a self-portrait of Reiner (Fig. 1, Sc. 2745/Pof. 2895). This stamp came in a printing sheet of 6 stamps, was designed by Jan Šolpera, and engraved by Václav Fajt.

This particular stamp was never mentioned in the SPECIALIST. Here it is at last!! A good connection? I think so!

*Souvenir Sheet Varieties*  
by Frank A. Garancousky

PRAGA '88: The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of F.I.P.  
Scott 2609/POFIS A2747



Figure 1 - Type A



Figure 2 - Type B



Figure 3 - Type C

A unique and most unusual souvenir sheet was issued for this event and is only one of three souvenir sheets specifically commemorating the event. Appearing as three individual stamps, there is in fact only the one located in the center. The other images are coupons or tabs.

The unique format is issued in three distinct types. The first, A2747A (Fig. 1), is completely perforated along the perimeter and between the tabs and stamp. The second, A2747B (Fig. 2), is an imperforate sheet, while the third, A2747C (Fig. 3), is perforated only along the outside perimeter of the tabs and the stamp. The Scott catalog merely mentions the existence of an imperforate sheet and another sheet with perforations between the stamp and tabs omitted.

In January of 1988 the *SPECIALIST* published an article by Henry Hahn on this souvenir sheet along with illustrations of an imperforate sheet and examples of misregistration between plates. When the article was written, the souvenir sheet had only been recently issued, but already a printing variety was noted. Nothing further has been revealed about this souvenir sheet in the American philatelic press.

The blue Specialized Pofis catalog *Czechoslovakia 1945-1992*, edition of 1998, was published as a guide to varieties. Page 217 illustrates the known varieties as of the date of publication. The illustrations are quite distorted as relating to the text describing the

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tassels below the horn in the right tab because of the darkened nature of the variety. The text does conform to the illustration describing the face lines but is ambiguous when it describes the lines of the horn mouthpiece.

The lines of the horn mouthpiece should be described as horizontal lines in the "bowl" of the mouthpiece and not confused with the slanted lines in the entire mouthpiece which are of varying length and intensity as pictured in Figure 4.

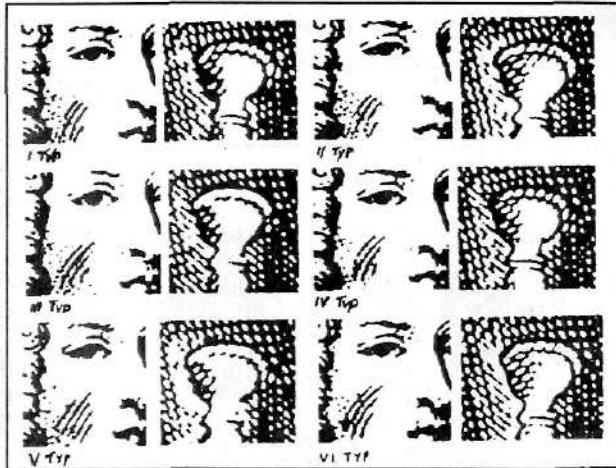


Figure 4: Face lines and horn mouthpiece types

The ring variety illustrated in Figure 5 is a plate flaw. The text below the illustration lists this as a Type Va, however, the text refers to the double knurled tassel hanging down from the horn. The ring variety is only found in the Type I or Type III souvenir sheet. The only known copy of a Type I "ring" variety is used. A retouched plate flaw of the ring is also mentioned in the text and appears as a very faint line, it too is a rare find.



Figure 5: "Prsten" (ring) variety

The tassels below the horn of the right tab (Fig. 6) is my hand drawn sketch to better illustrate the crosshatching of the flowing strands. The singular vertical and slanted line crosshatching is the normal variety. The double knurled crosshatching when found is at a premium. This variety has no specific catalog listing and is considered a printing variety.

In the fully perforated sheet of format A, there are seven varieties. The imperforate sheet format B, lists five with no sub variety type Va and no type VI. In the semi-perforated sheet of format C, there is no type I or II.

The translated text for the varieties illustrated in Figure 4:

- Type I: There are four thin scratches on the cheek of the Count, three of which end at the same length at the top; the horizontal lines in the bowl of the horn mouthpiece are short
- Type II: The face scratches remain the same as in Type I; the lines in the mouthpiece are long
- Type III: The four face scratches appear as being engraved deeper and vary in length at the top; the lines in the mouthpiece are short



- Type IV: The four face scratches are the same as in Type III; the lines in the mouthpiece are long
- Type V: There are now five face scratches on the cheek; the lines in the mouthpiece are short
- Type Va: The five face scratches and the lines in the mouthpiece are the same as in Type V; the tassel hanging from the horn is a double knurl crosshatching
- Type VI: There are four face scratches on the cheek one of which is bold and longer; the lines in the mouthpiece are long

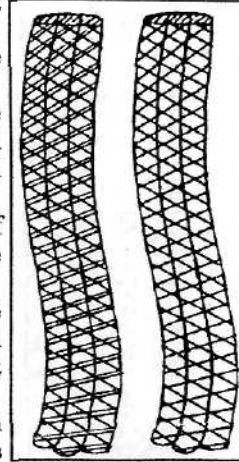


Figure 6: Double knurl and normal

The illustration of the plate position crosses in the 1988 article by Henry Hahn is not listed in any specialized catalog. It is in fact a distinct variety that is found located at the top of the stamp or below the stamp in all formats.

Filatelie 11/1999, published an article by J. Brožová employed at the Filatelie Pěnkava. This related article reveals a used Type VI imperforate sheet that has been expertized and verified. This translation will be published in the next issue of the SPECIALIST.



## WARS, FIELD POST OFFICES and CZECHOSLOVAKS 1878 - 1921 by Lubor Kunc

*(Continued from previous issue)*

Now I would like to mention some information about the Austrian field post. It will be a short description, since more complete information would require a separate article.

The Austro-Hungarian military post offices consisted of:

German	Hungarian	English
Feldpostsortierstelle		Field post sorting office
Feldpostsammelstelle		Field post concentration center
Hauptfeldpostamt	Tabori főpostahivatal	Main FPO no. (Fig 32)
Feldpostamt	Tabori Postahivatal	FPO no. (Fig. 33)
Etappenpostamt	Hadtap Postahivatal	Occupation PO no. (Fig. 34)

Just for your information, during WW I there existed 32 Austrian "Hauptfeldpostamt" offices, 5 Hungarian "Tabori főpostahivatal" ones, 529 Austrian "Feldpostamt" offices, and 99 Hungarian "Tabori Postahivatal" ones.

The "Feldpostsortierstelle" received mail addressed to soldiers from civil post offices, sorted it according to the military unit of the addressee, and then delivered the mail to the appropriate "Feldpostsammelstelle".

Absender:  
Odesílatel:  
Národca:  
Mittente:  
Pošilatelj:  
Poštijač:  
Presentator:

*Handwritten:*  
Absender: Hauptfeldpostamt No. 22

**K. K. LANDSTURMMARSCHBATAILL.**  
Feldpostkorrespondenzkarte,  
Jungbunzlau No. **3. Marschkompas**

**HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT**  
17. V. 15  
22

*Handwritten:*  
Of Ervadpa Seldygar 0815  
19 Marschkompas  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15

*Handwritten:*  
Sienj Jan  
Jan František Ceromka  
Traba Zúben Psháma ul.  
Karel Puké  
22

Fig. 32

The "Feldpostsammelstelle" collected mail coming from various sources for military units and delivered it to the appropriate "Hauptfeldpostamt" managing the "Feldpostamt" belonging to the military unit of the addressee.

ZA feladó  
Név:  
Cím:  
K. K. Landsturm **TABORIPOST**

**HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT**  
17. V. 15

*Handwritten:*  
K. K. Landsturm No. 3. R. 100  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15  
17. V. 15

*Handwritten:*  
Neve: *František Ceromka*  
ul. Jarosa Holubasova,  
komit. „Učianké Závěny  
v Filimovic.  
J. K. 15

Fig. 33



Fig. 34



Fig. 35



Fig. 36

The Main FPO's and FPO's were established only for military purposes. They moved along with the military units they served. This is the main difference between them and the Occupation PO's, which were situated in towns of the territory occupied by the Austro-Hungarian Army. The Occupation PO's served the military units (free of postage) as well as the public (for postage). All together there were 108 Austrian Occupation PO's (Etappenpostamt) and 37 Hungarian Occupation PO's (Hadtap Postahivatal). A nice example is Figure 30 which is a card sent by a supervisor from a prisoner of war camp at Cracow (Poland) to Prague via an Occupation PO in 1917.

Because their service to the public was charged postage, the Austro-Hungarian Field Post decided to issue special stamps for this purpose. This occurred in April 1915, when the first set of stamps was issued. For this first issue the military stamp of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the overprint "K.u.K. Feldpost" was used (Fig. 35, Sc. Austria M8).

There are the following types of these stamps: general -- issued for field post offices on all the occupied areas (Fig. 31A); special stamps -- for the important occupied areas of Italy, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia. The general issues were denominated in Austrian Crowns, while the special issues for the above



Fig. 37

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mentioned countries were denominated in the local currencies or in Austrian Crowns (Fig. 36, Sc. Italy N1, shows the special issue for Italy).

Figure 37 (Sc. Yugoslavia 1L7) shows an interesting stamp. This was originally a Bosnian stamp showing a postal stage-coach, which was then overprinted in 1918 by the newly established Yugoslavian Civil Postal Administration. It was overprinted because after WW I the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina belonged to the newly created state of "Yugoslavia", which used its supplies of old Austro-Hungarian military stamps for civil purposes.



Fig. 38

During WW I the Austro-Hungarian Army published the so-called "Soldiers Newspapers". Some of them were published for soldiers only (e.g. "Karnisch-julische Kriegszeitung der 10. Armee"), while others were published for the public as well (e.g. "Belgrader Nachrichten" published for the citizens of Belgrade in Serbia). To enable the postal delivery of newspapers (military or civil) via the FPO's to the soldiers, the Army issued special military newspaper stamps (Fig. 38, Sc. Italy NP2 -- issue for Italy). The military newspaper stamps were used not only in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, but also on the occupied territories of Poland, Serbia, Italy, Romania and Montenegro. There are examples known where the Field Post granted permission to newspapers to deliver their copies to the soldiers without any postage (e.g. the newspaper "Tagblatt für Venetien und Friaul" received such permission in July 1918).

The occupied Italian territory played a special role for the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, which was supported through the Field Post issues. The Austro-Hungarian Field Post only issued postage due and special delivery stamps for the occupied territories of Italy. It used the original Bosnian stamps, which were

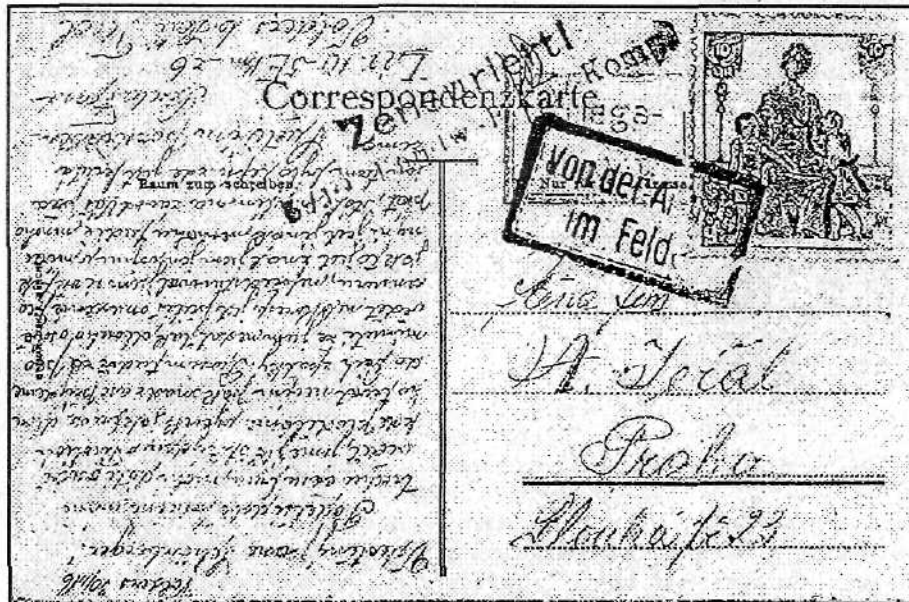


Fig. 39

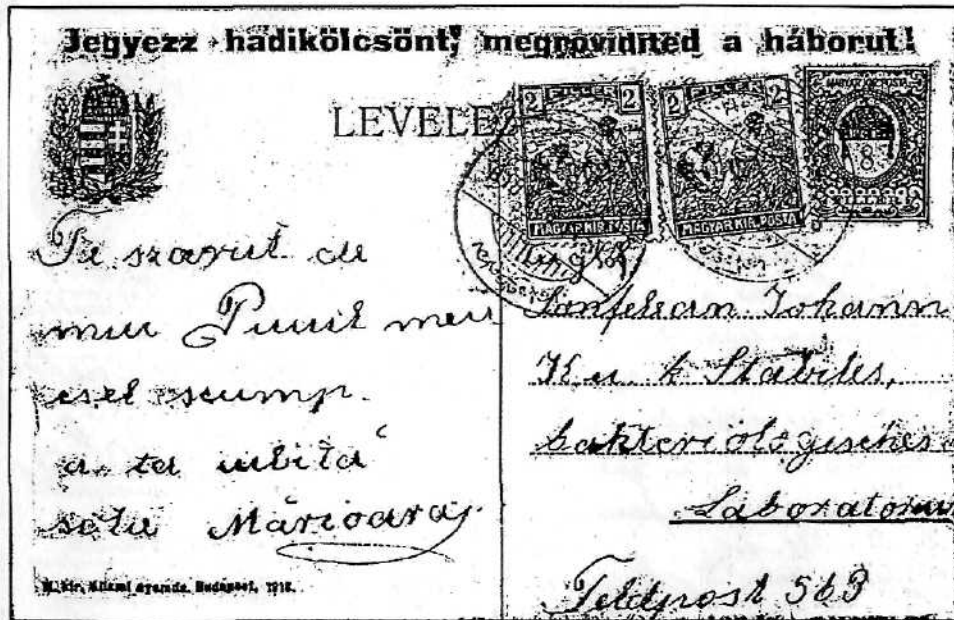


Fig. 40

overprinted with a new face value in Italian currency (similar to the newspaper stamp in Fig. 38).

For additional information you can look in the Michel Österreich Spezial catalog (Special Catalog of Austria) which lists all the Bosnian and Herzegovinan as well as Austro-Hungarian Field Post issues.

The majority of Czech and Slovak soldiers were incorporated into the following regiments of the Austro-Hungarian Army during WW I:

- Infantry Regiments: #1, 3, 8, 11, 12, 18, 21, 25, 28, 34, 35, 36, 42, 54, 67, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 81, 88, 91, 93, 94, 98, 99, 100, 102, 111, 118, 119, 121, 136
- Rifle Regiments: #6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (Fig. 39), 11, 12, 13, 14, 25, 28, 29, 30
- Honved Regiments (infantry regiments from Slovakia): #9, 13, 14, 15
- Field Jaeger Battalions (elite military units): #1, 5, 6, 12, 15, 16, 17, 25, 29, 32

Of course, Czech and Slovak soldiers were incorporated into other military units as well (e.g. naval or aerial units of the Austro-Hungarian Army). The next two pictures show additional interesting military units. The first of them (Fig. 40) is to the "K.u.K. Stabiles / bakteriologisches Laboratorium" (stable bacteriological laboratory) -- as you can see, biological weapons are not only weapons of today. The sender used a Hungarian postal card with a slogan asking the public to support the War Loan. The other one (Fig. 41) is to the submarine production site of the Austro-Hungarian Army in Pola (today, Pula in Croatia, at that time HQ of the Austro-Hungarian Navy). The pictured card was sent to a Czech engineer serving in "K.u.K. Seearsenal, U -- Bootsbauleitung" (Navy Arsenal -- Directorship for construction of submarines).

It needs to be said that the Czech population of the Monarchy did not support the war. As a result the soldiers refused to join their military units, or they didn't fight and went over to the opposite side (as prisoners or as deserters). The

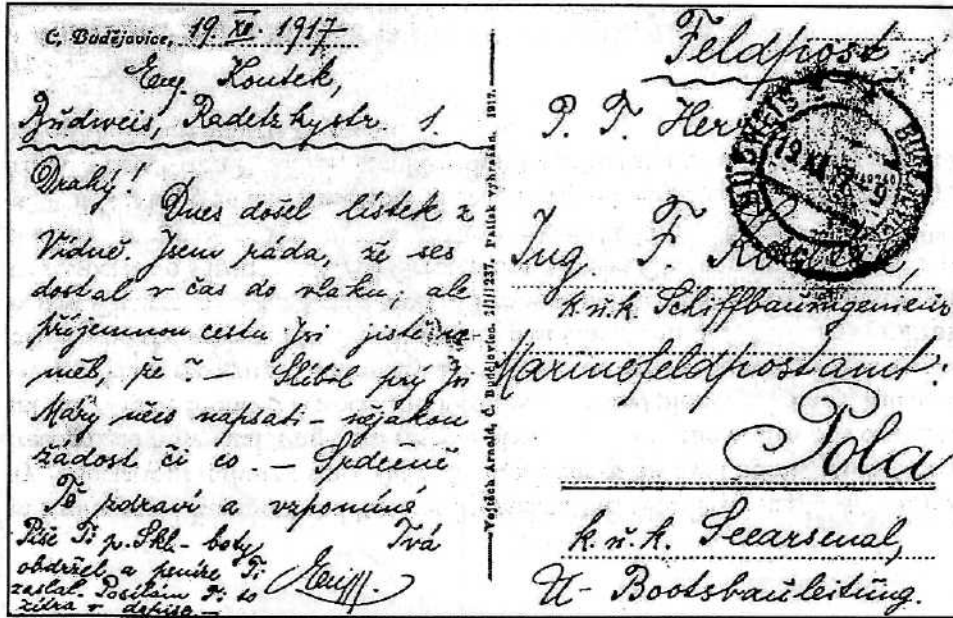


Fig. 41

first big escape of Czech soldiers occurred in October 1914, when important parts of the 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and the 30<sup>th</sup> Rifle Regiment went over to Russian capture during operations in Halíč. The same situation was available on the Serbian front, so the army decided in January 1915 to move all Czech units from Serbia to Russia.



Fig. 42



Fig. 43

This action had no effect on the quantity of escaping soldiers, which was confirmed in April 1915 by the escape of the 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment to Russian capture. The situation was so bad that the Emperor decided to liquidate the regiment.

Based on these experiences, the Austrian generals made two decisions:



Fig. 44

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- they moved the HQ of regiments from Czech lands to areas in the Monarchy where the population supported the Emperor -- e.g. the 8<sup>th</sup> Rifle Regiment of Prague was moved to the Austrian town of Salzburg (Fig. 42 -- a card sent by a member of the regiment from Salzburg in December 1914).

- because this first action was not as successful as they had expected, step 2 followed. They combined the military units having a high rate of soldiers from Bohemia/Moravia with military units of the German Emperor's Army under common German command. In such cases the soldiers could use the German Field Post (the card pictured in Fig. 43 was sent by such a soldier to Frýdlant in Bohemia). The cancel belongs to the German Field Post serving the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division of the "German" army. Figure 44 shows a card of the German army used by Austrian soldiers and mailed through the Austrian Field Post Office. This theme would need a separate article as well.

*(To Be Continued)*



## SCP LIBRARY RULES AND REGULATIONS

by Richard Palaschak  
Librarian

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### *Philatelic News and Views*

#### From Lumír Brendl:

-- . . . As for the term "EUREGLIA EGRENSIS", it is the Czech genitive of the "EUROPEAN REGION OF EGERLAND" (or: region around the town of CHEB; CHEB in German means EGER); in Latin: EUREGIO EGRENSIS. The title was: Philatelic Exhibition of the EUREGIO EGRENSIS. The Region is formed by the Czech counties of CHEB, SOKOLOV (= FALKENAU) & KARLOVY VARY, and the German counties on the other side of the State border: ZWIKAU, HOF, SELB, and part of Bavaria.

In April 2003, we are preparing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Czech-German Philatelic Exhibition in Jihlava (Iglau). It will be a big exhibition.

In 2003 the Czech Post will issue a special postage stamp dedicated to the BRNO 2005 Exhibition but with a special coupon to publicize OSTROPA 2003. The title OSTROPA means OST EUROPA or: EASTERN EUROPE, and is derived from the original OSTROPA 1935 held by German and other European philatelists in Königsberg (Ostpreussen), now Russian KALININGRAD.

BRNO 2005 will be a European exhibition under FEPA patronage and FIP recognition. I assume the US Czechoslovak Society will also be invited.

#### From Savoy Horvath:

-- Beginning January 1, 2002, the Slovak Republic will follow the example of the Czech Republic by rebating a tax if you ask for it. Whenever you buy anything there is a Value Added Tax added to your purchase price. Make sure you get a receipt for any item that costs 5,000 Sk or more. Show this receipt at the airport or when you are leaving the country, and they will refund this tax to you. This only applies to items that were purchased and intended for use outside of the country.

-- As previously reported, the CR has increased its postal rates as of January 1, 2002. There are really two "basic" rates: for a "standard" letter (the typical Czech

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122mm x 140mm envelope, up to 20g) it is 5.40 Kč; for a "regular" letter (any other size envelope, but only up to 20g) it is 8 Kč. A registered letter now requires an additional 14.40 Kč, while business correspondence up to 20g is 6 Kč.

From Lubor Kunc:

-- Pictured here is an example of the kind of "bill" (receipt) that was issued by the Prague Main Post Office machine (#143018) that produces "automated" stamps. If you have such a receipt from the machine that was located at the BRNO 2000 philatelic exhibition, please compare it with this one as to the "SERIOVÉ ČÍSLO". Please let me know [through the editor] what you discover.

CESKA POSTA	
SERIOVÉ ČÍSLO :	143018
ČÍSLO ÚČTENKY :	000000478
CASTKA :	*20,00 Kč
19/11/2001	08:14:50
Česka pošta děkuje za navstevu	

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

## Letters to the Editor

### 1. Mily Ludviku:

In the last SPECIALIST [Sep/Oct 2001, pg 41] I saw the comments by Karl Ruzicka on the article about Silesia -- and the truly great disclosure that this stamp (which I was not aware of) has a connection with Těšín!

Until now, I had only known of the northern Polish stamp issue commemorating the creation of the first Polish parliament in 1919 (the planned elections of this parliament caused the Šnejdarek expedition into Silesia). Your stamp was also used at the Karvína 1 post office in May 1939, i.e. on Czechoslovak territory which Poland had occupied in 1938! Truly a splendid stamp!

Lubor [Kunc]

### 2. Dear Lou:

A friend of mine brought to my attention -- and purchased for me -- "Specializovaný KATALOG Cenných Nálepek České Pošty" [specialized catalog of meter labels of the Czech post], issued in Brno, April 2001. The author is a collector of the postal labels used by the Czech Postal System. It is in loose form, costs \$3.00 in Brno; airmail postage another \$3.00.

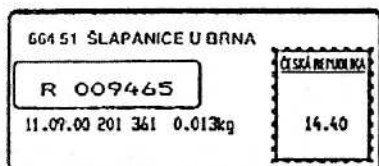


Fig. 1

The catalog is quite complete, with lots of illustrations (Fig. 1) and consists of 4 parts: "Textová Část" [textual part] -- explaining and giving professional information about the labels; the other sections give detail information on issuance of the labels by types: 1A, 1B, 1C -- 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2AB, 2AC -- 3A, 3D, 3AB.

I admire the thoroughness and diligence of the author. At the same time, after looking on my rather modest collection of labels -- collected from incoming mail or gifts of friends -- I came to a conclusion that it would take another lifetime for me to even

get to First Base. So, maybe, somewhere there is a reader (should you publish my letter) who would like what I accumulated so far. It is free for the asking.

With best regards,  
Karl [Ruzicka]

[Ed. Note: Anyone who is interested should contact the editor by e-mail or letter.]

3. Dear Lou:

One of the first stamps issued by the Czech Republic in 1993 was that of St. John Nepomuk on the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death (Scott 2880, Fig. 2). Slovakia (Scott 167) and Germany (Scott 1776, Fig. 3) made it a joint issue with the Czech one.



Fig. 2

It always puzzled me why Germany made it a joint issue. On my recent trip to Europe, I found out why. My wife and I traveled Europe by boat -- on the rivers of Rhein, Main, Rhein-Donau Canal and the Danube (from Amsterdam to Vienna) for some three leisure weeks and saw plenty of river towns. Without exception, each of the cities had high water marks shown somewhere on their buildings with dates of the floods. On a stop at the Weltenburg monastery located in Germany, just above the Danube rapids,



Fig. 3

there stood the statue of St. John Nepomuk. When I asked a travel guide why the statue was there, he explained that in Germany, St. John Nepomuk is a saint protecting against flood because, after his death, he was thrown into a river. The reason for his death, the guide explained, was that a king of Bohemia took dislike of him. He had no knowledge of the real reason of St. John's sainthood -- namely that king Wenceslas IV demanded of John to reveal [the] confessions of his wife, queen Sofie. John, sworn as a priest to protect the confessional confidentiality, refused. His tortured body [with tongue cut out] was thrown into the Vltava river on Tuesday, 20 March 1393. He was declared a saint of the Church in 1725 -- after testimonies of many miracles -- the greatest was that when his body was exhumed, his tongue was intact. I made sure that the travel guide got the full facts; he appreciated it.

There is a short prayer to St. John Nepomuk in Czech: "Svatý Jane z Nepomuku, drž nad námi Čechy ruku" (St. John Nepomuk, protect us the Czechs).

My story proves again that collecting of stamps is an interesting and instructive way of learning what, where, when, who and why (the 5 pillars of journalism).

With best regards,  
Karl [Ruzicka]

4. Ludviku:

I want to add some information to the article of Mr. Rizza [Nov/Dec 2001 issue, pg 23/24]. But first of all, I would like to thank him for opening up this interesting theme!

Znojmo/Znaim is located in Southern Moravia near the Austrian border. In October 1938 the town was incorporated into the Sudetenland areas, which were

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separated from Czechoslovakia (former Southern Bohemia and Southern Moravia). These areas were not incorporated directly into Germany, but to the Austrian provinces of Lower and Upper Danube (Nieder Donau and Obau Donau Provinzen; now called Lower and Upper Austria) and were administered by Germany. Whereas this may seem like a small difference, it has an important impact in the philatelic area.

In occupied Austria, German stamps were valid through 1945, Austrian stamps were valid through 31 October 1938, and even in the former Czechoslovak territories Czechoslovak stamps were valid in October 1938. The Michel Austria Special Catalog (German one, I have the 1990 issue) mentions that Czechoslovak stamps with/without overprints were allowed for usage also in Austria per the Order of the German Postal Directorate of Dresden, dated 19 October 1938. As you can see, for a very short period (a maximum of one month in October 1938) the stamps of three states were valid on the former Czechoslovak territory!

Of course, this possibility was used to their advantage by stamp collectors (while the normal postal users affixed just one country's stamps). In my opinion, this is also the case with Mr. Rizza's letter. The franking of Mr. Rizza's cover can be divided up as follows:

- 6 Pf. German stamp = 6 Pf.
- 1 Groschen Austrian stamp = 1 Pf.
- 50 Heller Czechoslovak stamp = 5 Pf.

The total postage for sending a letter between two different towns amounted to 12 Pf., which corresponds to the above calculation. The 8 Pf. postage rate was valid only for letters sent within a town, e.g. from one person to another when both were in Znojmo.

As to the liberation of Znojmo, it was liberated by the Russian army. The American army stopped in Pilsen, which is located about 100 kilometers away. Even today, a statue of a Russian soldier stands in one of the most important squares of Znojmo.

Now my comments on the overprinted stamp. I am not an expert on the German overprint issues of 1938, so once again I used the Michel catalog as well as the General German one (1992). Here I found the Reichenberg-Maffersdorf issue (Reichenberg's Czech name is Liberec, and Maffersdorf is now called Vratislavice nad Nisou -- it is a suburb of Liberec), which looks similar to Mr. Rizza's stamp. This issue contains the Czechoslovak "Bachmac" stamp with the "Wir sind frei" overprint. Michel lists this stamp as #132 in the "Sudetenland" section.

Here are the results of my research. I cannot say whether the cover is genuine or forged, but -- as has been shown in the SPECIALIST and here -- the franking was possible at that time and place. The question of genuineness can only be answered by an expert. If it is genuine, I find it very interesting; however, it has been prepared by a stamp collector.

Lubor Kunc

[Ed. Note: *Sal Rizza's response follows:*]

Dear Lou:

I checked Mr. Kunc's information with my own copy of the 2000 Michel German Specialized Catalog, and I am in agreement with everything that he wrote except for his



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

conclusion that the overprint on my cover was similar to the Reichenberg-Maffersdorf overprints. The Michel catalog shows copies of the "WIR SIND FREI" from that city, and all the overprints have an exclamation mark after "FREI"; thus throwing off Mr. Kunc's conclusion about it. Of course, Austria no longer existed October 1938. The Znaim postal area came under the jurisdiction of the Vienna

office. I thank Mr. Kunc for his interest in the matter. It was nice of him to take the time to reply.

All the very best,

Sal Rizza

5. Dear Lou:

With regards to the PRIBINA sheet [Nov/Dec SPECIALIST, pg 40], I would like to add the following.

In the 1939 EKSTEIN-KATALOG of Tschechoslowakischer Briefmarken the entry for the 1933 stamps is headed: (translated from the German text) "PRIBINA - COMMEMORATIVE 20-VI-1933 for the founding of the first Christian Church by (the) King Pribina in Nitra. The images

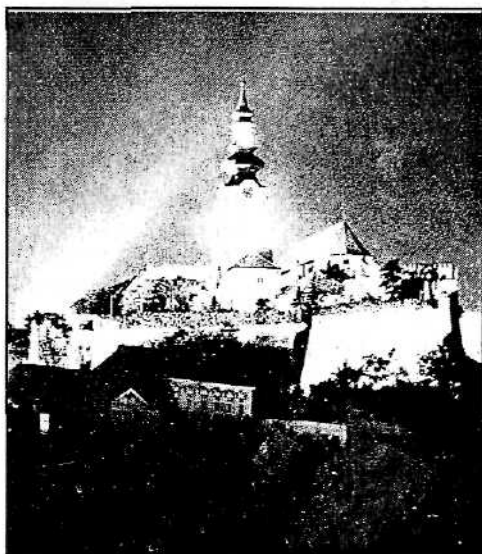


Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 9



Fig. 8

represent:

50h Nitra Castle

1 Kc The Dom in Nitra  
(Fig. 4) The frame is a renaissance gateway with the years 833 and 1933."

This set of two stamps is now simply listed as "NITRA".

Further on the subject of Nitra, I enclose photo copies of 5 cards issued in 1933 for the 1100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nitra (Fig. 5 - ex). All are inscribed in Czech/Slovak(?) as well as French, translated into English: "1100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the past history of the Slovak commemoration of the first church built by Prince PRIBINA of Nitra, very ancient residence of the glorious Moravian Empire." Design was by S.L. KOSTELNICKA, Brno.

Nitra castle together with the cathedral church of St. Emmeram completely dominate the town as shown in the enclosed photo (Fig. 6). Earlier stamps depicting the castle include Pof. 1481/Sc. 1347 of 1965 (Fig. 7) and Pof. 2547/Sc. 2417 of 1982 which also shows the cities coat-of-arms and is a part of a miniature sheet (Fig. 8). The labels on the sheet depict Nitra in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and also archaeological finds from the surrounding area. The most recent stamp showing Nitra was issued in 1995 in Slovakia (Sc. 152, Fig. 9).

Best Wishes,  
Gerald [van Zanten]

6. Dear Lou:

Reading with interest the articles in the SPECIALIST -- "An Intro. to Czech and Slovak Musical Philately", I remembered an envelope (copy enclosed, Fig. 10)



Fig. 10

which a friend of mine sent me some time ago from Switzerland.

It has a special post mark with the notes and text of an aria "Rozmysli si, Mařenko, rozmysli" from Smetana's "Prodaná Nevěsta". So, here is an indication that we Czechs in USA also care about our composers and their music. Furthermore, the postmark shows words "CZECHOPEX sta." in the cancellation. Does anyone know the reason for this special postmark?

Z pozdravy  
Karel [Ruzicka]



Fig. 11

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7. Dear Lou:

This will be a short letter to inquire about the enclosed cover (Fig. 11), which was mailed from Alt-Schallersdorf to Znaim on 6 February 1919. There was not enough postage; so the Znaim 1 post office added three regular issue stamps overprinted "PORTO" with violet ink. Thus making up the lack of enough postage from the original sender. . . . my question is: Are these overprinted stamps locally overprinted because of a lack of regular issue postage due issues or were they in regular, every-day usage throughout the Czech lands?

Sal Rizza

*[Ed. Note: My research indicates that this was common practice at that time (the first postage dues were issued on February 1, just 5 days earlier) because regular postage dues had not been sufficiently distributed yet. Also, postmasters wanted to use up the Austrian stamps that were available (although this is not the case with your cover), so these were often used as postage dues with various overprints designating them as such.]*

8. Lou:

I am sorry that you didn't seem to enjoy the Chicagopex show based on your Specialist comments. "I" visited the Society booth, and met several Society members, but I don't remember meeting you there. (I was busy with the Society sales circuit that added several nice items to my collection.)

As to why more local members didn't attend, while the show was free, parking was \$12-13 a day, with no less expensive parking closer than 10 blocks away and it is early winter in Chicago in November. While general Chicagopex attendance may have been down, attendance at the big APS Chicago show in August at the same location seemed very, very good. The other major Chicago show is Compex and that is held in May when the weather is generally warmer. It is also now held in the Chicago suburbs to avoid any high priced parking fees. Another reason for poor Chicagopex attendance may have been that it was post September 11<sup>th</sup>, and the APS show was prior to Sept. 11.

I hope the Society will come back soon, when it is warm. Either way,  
Best Wishes,  
Phil Melamed

9. Dear Lou:

As a collector of issues designed by Mucha, including the Hradčany issues, I very much enjoyed "Early Usages of the Hradčany Issue" by Lubor Kunc published in the November/December 2001 issue of The Czechoslovak Philatelist [*sic* SPECIALIST]. Lubor's request for collectors to report any and all covers franked with the Hradčany issues and postmarked in December 1918 brought to mind two covers that I have in my collection.

The first cover is a picture postcard depicting the Austrian emperor in traveling attire walking on a dirt road towards Holland pulling a wooden toy wagon filled with a crown, scepter, sword and a helmet. The card is franked with a 5h Hradčany stamp tied by a December 18, 1918 cancel. The card is endorsed "Tiskopis" and, as the card contains no message, but just the name and address of the recipient, this is a correctly franked "printed matter" rate First Day Cover. The cover, which I purchased from a Majer & Thraumb auction, is signed by Karásek.





Fig. 12

The second cover (Fig. 12) is even more interesting. It was purchased in 1997 from a dealer in Germany. Apparently mailed without postage, the letter was assessed 40h postage due at its destination, Proschwitz a.d. Neisse. The amount would be correct for the penalty rate of double the 20h letter rate. The stamps used to pay the fee and the date of the postmark is what makes this cover so interesting. The fee was paid with a 15h Austrian definitive with a manuscript "porto" transforming it into a postage due stamp, a 10h Austrian postage due stamp, a bisected 10h Austrian due stamp, and a 10h Hradčany stamp with a manuscript "porto" overprint. The stamps are all tied with fairly clear Proschwitz cancels dated 28 XII 18. The origin postmark is, unfortunately, rather indistinct.

The unusual combination of stamps, the indistinct origin cancel and an address that appears to have been added after the stamps were applied makes the cover a bit suspicious. However, I suspect that it may be authentic, albeit a favor item created at the whim of a collector. I would very much like to have an expert (or two or three) examine the cover and render an opinion. If judged authentic, this would be a highlight of my collection and exhibit.

Regards,  
Tony [Dewey]

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

### *New Issues*

## CZECH REPUBLIC

by G. M. van Zanten

1. On October 9, 2001, the Ministry of Transport and Communications issued a set of two commemorative stamps in the Technical Monuments series entitled Mills



Fig. 1

stands in Kuželov (Hodnotín district). The conical stone structure supports a rotating shingle roof in the shape of an eighteen-sided pyramid. The original machine of the mill takes up three floors. The Kuželov mill was built in 1842. Grain was ground there until the end of the First World War, and in 1946 the mill stopped work altogether. The technical museum in Brno had it restored in 1973. A FDC in

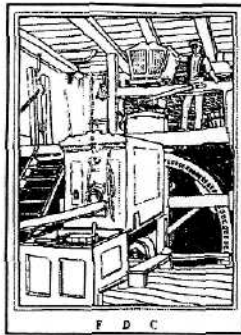


Fig. 3

green depicts a grinding room from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and has a cancel from Dolní Bousov (Fig. 3).

2. On October 9, 2001, the Ministry issued a 9 Kč commemorative stamp on the theme of Dialogue Between Civilizations (Fig. 4). At the suggestion of Iran, the United Nations General Assembly has declared 2001 the UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations. In connection with this, the Universal Postal Union has invited member countries to issue a joint postage stamp on this theme and organized an international competition, to which 29 designs were submitted. Slovenia's winning design became the basis for a joint stamp issue in member countries of the Universal Postal Union which showed interest in this project (according to the Slovenian post office more than 60 other countries will show the winning design on their stamps). The purpose of the issue is to draw the world's attention to the diversity and great differences among the cultures of this world, whose peaceful coexistence and hope for the future depends

(Fig. 1). The stamps were designed by Vladimír Suchánek and engraved by Miloš Ondráček. They were produced by the Post Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in printing sheets of 50 pieces.

-- The 9 Kč stamp (yellow, red, blue, gray): a Dutch-style stone windmill

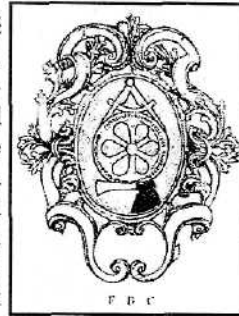


Fig. 2

brown depicts the coat-of-arms of the guild of Chrudim millers from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and has a cancel from Hrubá Vrbka (Fig. 2).

-- The 14.40 Kč stamp (yellow, red, blue, gray): the timbered water mill in the parish of Střehom (Mladá Boleslav district) was probably built in 1516. It still represents one of the best preserved examples of an old Czech mill. The main room of the mill, including machinery still survives. The building has many valuable structural details and a top-fed mill wheel. A FDC in green depicts a



Fig. 4

on mutual recognition, understanding, respect and dialogue among cultures. The stamp (in yellow, ocher, red and blue) depicts four children (representing the four main races of the world) holding hands around the world by way of various communications devices (letter, telephone, package, and computer keyboard). The stamp was designed by Urska Golob and engraved by Jaroslav Fišer. It was produced by the Post Printing House, Prague, by rotary recess printing in black combined with photogravure in printing sheets of 50 stamps. A FDC in blue depicts a graphic composition expressing the mutual penetration of different civilizations and with text stating "Dialogue Between Civilizations" in Czech and English (Fig. 5).

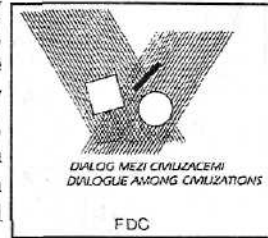


Fig. 5



Fig. 6

3. On November 14, 2001, the Ministry issued a set of three commemorative stamps in the Works of Art on Stamps series (Fig. 6). They were produced by the Post Printing House, Prague, using recess print from flat plates in printing sheets of 4 tamps.



Fig. 7

-- the 12 Kč stamp (in black, ocher, violet) depicts the painting "The Annunciation of the Virgin Mary (1740-1758)" by Michael Jindřich Rentz (1698-1758) which hangs in the Strahov Monastery. M. J. Rentz -- who worked in copperplate engraving and drawing -- was born and educated in Nuremberg. It was Count Spork who summoned him to Prague and later also to Kuks. There as court engraver -- together with the Montallegro family and many pupils -- he produced hundreds of graphic works, such as 300 biblical scenes for the book The Christian Year, many pictures of saints, portraits, landscapes, sculptures, etc. Rentz, who was highly skilled in drawing, was able to capture the dynamics of figures and scenes, which he placed in a setting of light and dark. He is

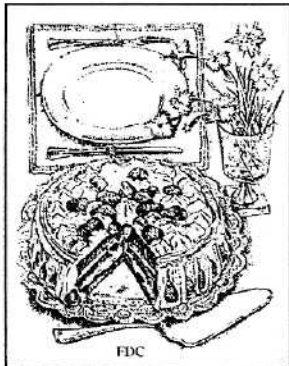


Fig. 8

among the greatest masters of Czech baroque art. This stamp was engraved by Bedřich Housa. A FDC in dark-gray depicts the art work for the engraving of St. Barbara -- Rentz's line drawing from the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Fig. 7).

-- the 17 Kč stamp (in yellow, ocher, red, blue, black-brown) depicts the painting "Sans-Souci Bar in Nîmes (1934)" by Cyril Bouda (1901-1984) which now hangs in the Ministry of Finance in Prague. This Czech graphic artist, illustrator and painter was one of the leading representatives of Czech modern art. He studied under F. Kysela at the School of Decorative Arts in Prague and under M. Švabinsky at the Academy of Fine Arts. Besides educational work, he initially painted landscapes and later worked on creative

graphic art and illustrations. He contributed to the revival of classical copperplate engraving and developed woodcut, etching, stone engraving and lithographic techniques. He enriched the traditional genres of portraits and views of Czech castles and cities with exquisite mannerist stylized drawings. He also worked on designs for *ex libris* plates, tapestries, mosaics, stained

glass, posters, and postage stamps (and thus is well known in philatelic circles). The engraver's transcription on the stamp is from a piece of his early work -- an oil painting on a theme from Southern France. This stamp was engraved by Václav Fajt. A FDC in red depicts a still life with a gateau from 1935 -- pencil on paper (Fig. 8).



Fig. 10

-- the 26 Kč stamp (in yellow, red, green, blue, brown-black) depicts the painting "The Goose Keeper (1885)" by Václav Brožík (1851-1901) which now hangs in the National Gallery in Prague. This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of V. Brožík, a Czech artist who worked on paintings and drawings, and who studied at the Academies in Dresden, Munich and Prague, where he was later a professor. He belonged to the National Theater generation of artists, and painted the Three Ages of the Czech Land in the National Theater's royal box. He made use of his great skill largely in historical paintings, but also in somewhat academic portraits and still-lives. The time he spent in France prompted his interest in landscapes and the rural genre which is the subject of this stamp. In these themes, he came close to the Barbizon school. Figure 9 gives you a feel for the great detail involved in this painting. A FDC in black-brown depicts a land motif -- a woman with a basket (Fig. 10).



Fig. 9

4. On November 14, 2001, the Ministry issued a 5.40 Kč commemorative stamp



Fig. 11

entitled Christmas (Fig. 11). This multicolored stamp depicts a rosy-cheeked half moon with winged high-heeled shoes bringing a decorated Christmas tree, a golden-brown Christmas cake, and a surprise gift. The moon is accompanied by a comet, and in the background a little sun looks around behind them. The peacefulness and joy of Christmas are captured in this picture. The issuing of Christmas stamps has become a tradition in



Fig. 12

Czech stamp production. This stamp will add a pleasant touch to Christmas cards. The stamp was designed by Olga Čechová and engraved by Bedřich Housa. It was produced by the Post Printing House, Prague, by rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in green, yellow, red, and blue in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in green depicts a stylized drawing of the Holy Family (Fig. 12).

### Postal Stationery

5. On June 6, 2001, the Ministry issued an envelope with imprinted 9 Kč stamp for commercial and promotional use with the left side free and reserved for surcharges (Fig. 13). The stamp image -- in brown -- consists of a graphic composition of the state emblem, the title of the republic, and the face value. This theme was based upon the stamp "The Great State Emblem of the Czech Republic" issued June 22, 1993. The envelope, the stamp image, and the original stamp were designed by

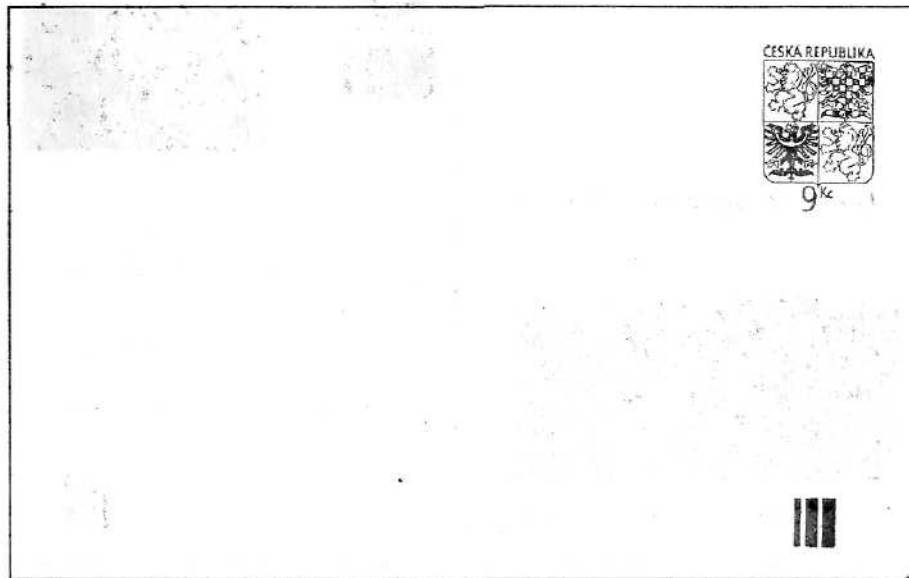


Fig. 13



Fig. 14

Bedřich Housa, and this envelope was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using recess print from flat plates. It sells for 12.60 Kč.

6. On June 20, 2001, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with

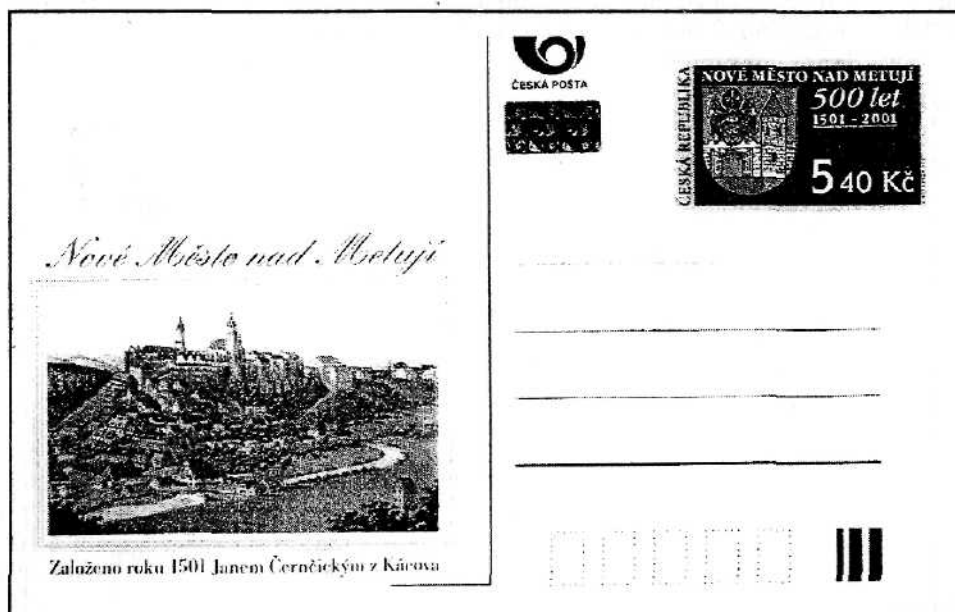


Fig. 15

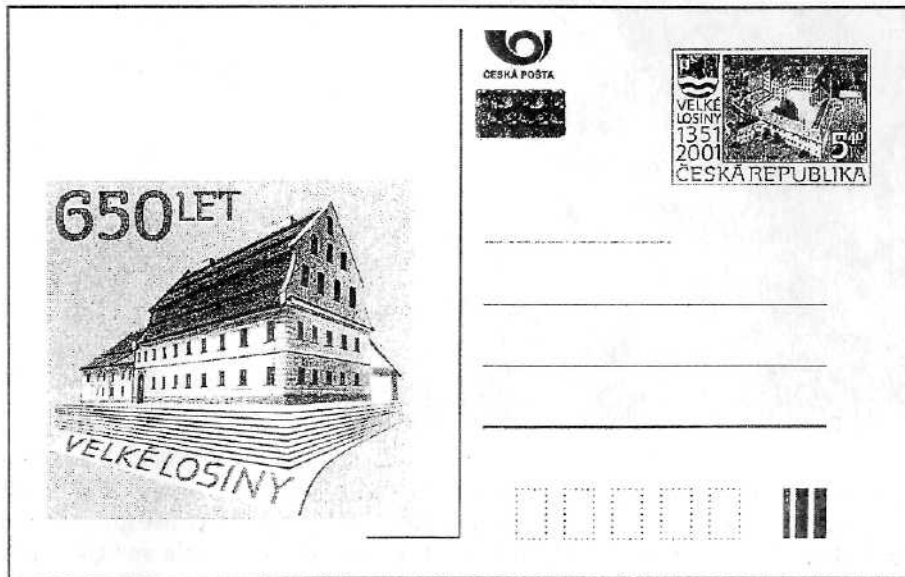


Fig. 16

imprinted 5.40 Kč stamp on the occasion of the National philatelic exhibition "Euregia Egrensis", Karlovy Vary 2001, with the participation of German exhibitors and taking place in the Thermal Bath House from August 23-26, 2001 (Fig. 14). The imprinted stamp depicts a composition containing a group of stamps, a magnifying glass, tweezers, and the title of the magazine *Filatelie*. This design is a modification of the imprinted 3 Kč and 4 Kč stamps on the commemorative postal cards issued on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the philatelic press and of the national Philatelic Exhibition in Benešov 1997. The left portion of the postal card has a reproduction of a tempura painting on metal, "Our Lady of Karlovy Vary", the patroness of the pump room, by Franz Matsch. Originally it was in a forest chapel, but today it is in the Karlovy Vary Museum. The card was designed by Jaroslav

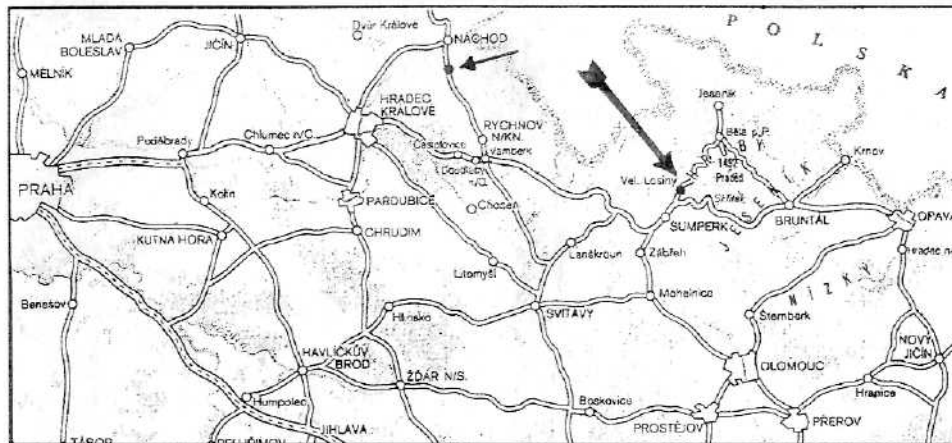


Fig. 17

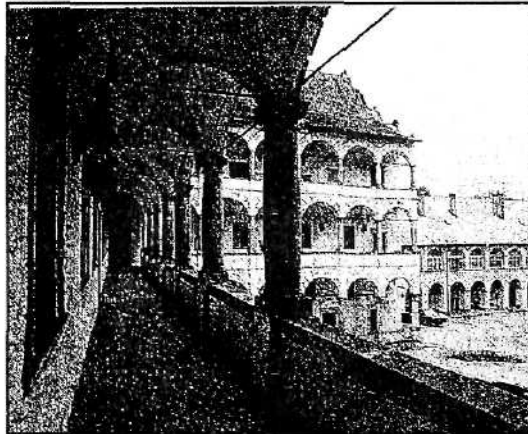


Fig. 18



Fig. 19

Fišer and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 6.10 Kč.

7. On June 20, 2001, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with imprinted 5.40 Kč stamp for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the town of Nové Město nad Metují (Fig. 15). Nové Město nad Metují is an Urban Heritage Reserve that has two towers -- one of a castle and the other of a church (see the smaller arrow on the map in Figure 17 for the town's location). The imprinted stamp shows the town's coat-of-arms, its name, and the years of its existence, 1501-2001. The left portion of the card illustrates an overall view of the town from the eastern side -- it is a reproduction of a water-color by Jan Tomek (Rydl's Chronicle, 1850). It is completed by Czech text of the city name, and that it was founded in 1501 by Jan Cernčický of Kácov [see my article in the Feb 1986 SPECIALIST for more details on this town]. The postal card was designed by Vladimír Suchánek and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 6.10 Kč.

8. On June 20, 2001, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with imprinted 5.40 Kč stamp to mark the 650<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the municipality of Velké Losiny (Fig. 16). The larger arrow on the map in Figure 17 shows where Velké Losiny is found. The imprinted multicolored stamp shows an aerial view of the city castle/chateau (considered the jewel of the Moravian Renaissance) and the municipality's coat-of-arms. It was built for the Žerotín family and has three stories of arcading overlooking its open courtyard (Fig. 18). In the 17<sup>th</sup> century the building became notorious as the scene of witch trials that resulted in the deaths of numerous innocent women. A collection of Dutch tapestries is displayed in

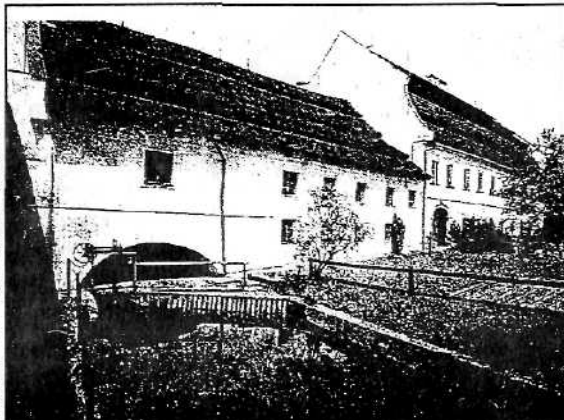


Fig. 20



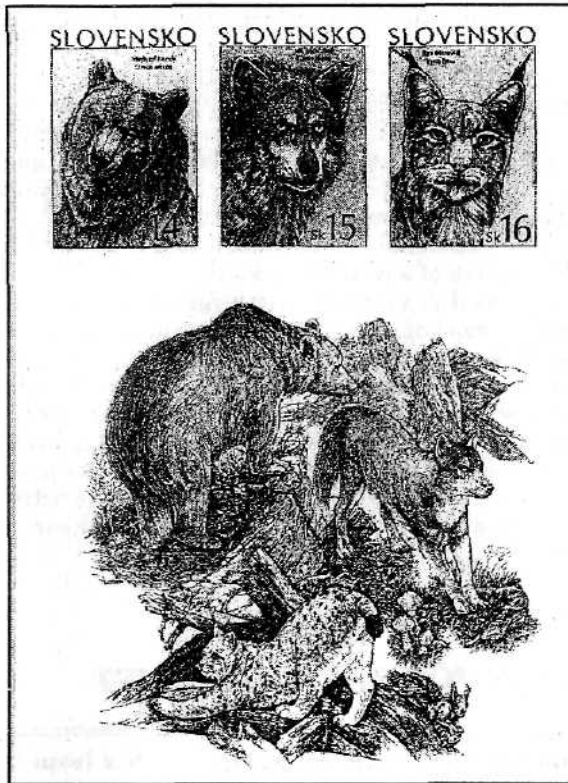


Fig. 21

the castle. But the municipality is best known for the paper mill which is located here and is illustrated in the left portion of the postal card. It is the oldest continuously operating paper mill in Central Europe, being founded in 1596 by Jan Jr. of Žerotín. The paper produced here -- using an old manual technique (it is all strictly hand made) and all natural raw materials of the highest quality -- is used for the printing of international contracts, significant state and personal correspondence, bibliophilic publications and for graphic art. This paper contains their watermark showing the Žerotín lion, city name, and A.D. 1596 (Fig. 19). Figure 20 shows the paper mill from a different angle emphasizing the paper museum and the water mill. Velké Losiny is also a spa town with it being a few kilometers from the Desná River. Its hot sulphurous springs (75-84°F/24-29°C) are used to relieve rheumatic pain. The

postal card was designed by Jiří Rathousky and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 6.10 Kč.

## SLOVAKIA

by Gerald M. van Zanten  
Frank Garancovsky

9. On July 10, 2001, the Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications issued an illustrated printing sheet in the "Nature Protection" series containing a set of 3 commemorative stamps showing carnivores (Fig. 21). The printing sheet and stamps were designed by Igor Benca and engraved by František Horniak. The sheet was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using recess printing from flat plates in combination with offset printing.

-- the 14 Sk stamp shows the brown bear (*Ursus Arctos* L.), the largest European carnivore. It originally inhabited almost all of Europe as well as northern and central Asia. It also has several cousins in North America. Bears live in the forests of northern and central Slovakia, 700-1500 meters above sea level. Coloration of fur varies from light to dark brown. Bears are omnivorous and often search for carcasses in the spring. They are active in the evening and at night, are

## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

solitary, and live about 30 years. A FDC bearing an illustration of a bear was issued.

-- the 15 Sk stamp shows the Common Wolf (*Canis Lupus L.*), a large carnivore from the dog family. Its original area of distribution covered Eurasia and North America. In our area it occurs especially in north-eastern and central Slovakia. The fur coat is predominantly gray, sometimes with a rusty-brown shade, being darker at the back and paler at the bottom. Wolves hunt by chasing their prey -- mostly deer, roe deer and wild boar -- but occasionally feed on carcasses. They may form a pack in which the strongest individual becomes the leader and may live 14-16 years. A FDC bearing an illustration of a wolf was issued.

-- the 16 Sk stamp shows the Lynx (*Lynx Lynx L.*), the largest European cat, which has been almost exterminated at most of its original area of distribution. It occurs in the forests of Scandinavia, Balkan, and eastern Europe. In our area it lives in mixed and coniferous forests located in northern and central Slovakia at 700-1500 meters above sea level. It has a heavily built, quadratic body with long legs. Its fur is thick, rusty gray-yellow with dark brown spots. The bottom of its body and chin are whitish, with the ear tufts and the end of the short tail being black. Its main prey is roe deer, though it also eats hares, mice, and smaller birds. Lynx are active mostly at dusk and at night, are solitary, and live about 16-18 years. A FDC bearing an illustration of a lynx was issued.



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