



THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



(USPS 808300)

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

ISSN: 0526-5843

Vol. 64

JULY/AUGUST 2002

No. 4, Whole No. 574

MAILING COSTS/DUES

In the Jan/Feb 2002 issue, we discussed some possible results of the US Postal Services recent and planned postal rate increases, and promised to keep you aware of what resultant decisions the Board might make about dues for the future.

I can now tell you that the latest news is mostly very good.

Although there was another round of postal rate increases which went into effect on July 1, 2002, these only affect our domestic mailings -- international rates were not increased. This means that our current deficit of approximately \$750 per issue will be increasing to about \$825 per issue. Nevertheless, because of the Society's excellent financial condition, the Board has decided that there will be no increase in dues for 2003. However, this issue will be revisited next year to see how the deficit and our financial condition are faring.

There were two special situations however where rates were increased, due to the costs far exceeding the services requested. (1) The foreign airmail surcharge is being increased from \$10 to \$15 for 2003. (2) The Patron Member dues are being increased from \$30 to \$40.

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IN MEMORIAM
ERNST GORGE, FRPSL 1913-2002

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Ernst Gorge on Sunday, 31 March 2002 at the age of 89, having been in poor health for some time. Ernst was born in Opava, Czechoslovakia in 1913 (then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire) and came to Great Britain just before the start of WW II in 1939. He acquired an interest in philately only much later in life when he bought a collection of Czechoslovakia, from which time, outside of his business activities, this became the major interest and hobby in his life. He joined the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain in about 1965 and remained a prominent member ever since. He acted for many years as Joint Secretary & Treasurer and was also Auction Secretary for some time. Over the years he gave a number of displays to our members of his fine collection. He added to his collection in such a way that it eventually became one of the foremost collections of Czechoslovak stamps, not only in the UK but throughout the world. He gained numerous medals for his exhibits in various international exhibitions all over the world. He was honored as a Fellow of the Royal in 1992 for his services to philately. He will be sadly missed by the members of our Society.

Robert Kingsley

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(ISSN 0526-5843)

Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

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VOL. 64

JULY/AUGUST 2002

No. 4, WHOLE NO. 574

Published bi-monthly - \$18.00 per year

Periodical Paid at Shippensburg, PA 17257

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST,

11½ North Washington Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257

Web Site: www.czechoslovakphilately.com

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Thematic Philately

**TO THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BIRTH OF TOMÁŠ GARRIGUE MASARYK**

by Lumir Brendl

trans. by Peter Z. Kleskovic

Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk is inseparably tied to our nation's fight for independence, democracy, humanism, and to the founding of the independent state of Czechs and Slovaks -- the Czechoslovak Republic. He is without a doubt a personality of European and world importance in whom we can be justly proud.

Let us first recollect some basic facts from the life of this most important political figure of Czechoslovakia.

Tomáš Masaryk was born in Hodonín on March 7, 1850 (Fig. 1) into the family of a manorial coachman -- after his father he was Slovak and after his mother he was Moravian. He was educated as an apprentice locksmith and blacksmith and studied in high schools in Brno and Vienna. In 1876 he acquired a doctorate in philosophy from Vienna University. He continued his studies at Leipzig, where he met an American, Charlotte Garrigue; he married her in 1878 and adopted her name -- thus, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (Fig. 2).

In 1882 he came to Prague -- he was appointed an assistant professor of the newly opened Charles University. Masaryk was also a Congressman of the imperial parliament in Vienna representing the town of Valašské Meziříčí (Fig. 3) and was even an important sociologist and publicist. During his lifetime -- as a confirmed humanist and democrat -- he

led several important struggles for scientific truth, humaneness, and justice. His most difficult fight was the Hilsner affair around 1900, when he stood alone along with his wife against the Czech public witchhunt. The "Hilsner incident", similar to the Dreyfus affair in France, was not only opposition

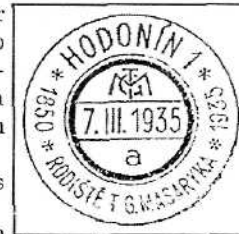


Fig. 1

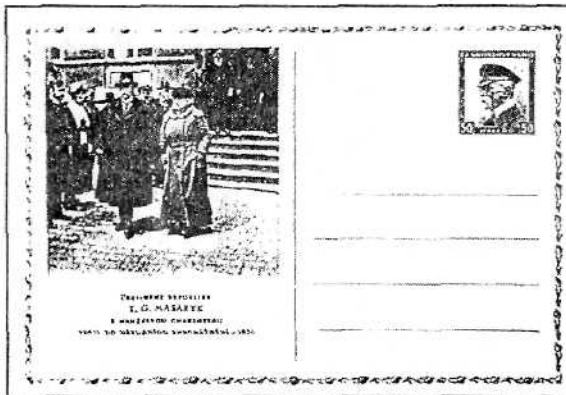


Fig. 2

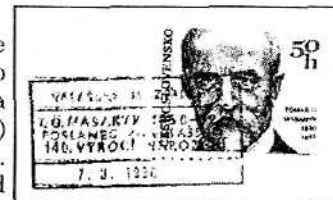


Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

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Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

against anti-semitism, but also battling the superiority complex of the dis-honest "national morality" versus the feeble and defenseless.

After the outbreak of WW I, he decided to announce a campaign against the Hapsburgs for an independent, free, and democratic state for Czechs and Slovaks. Together with Dr. Edvard Beneš and Slovak scientist-astronomer, Milan Rastislav Štefánik (Fig. 4 and 5), he founded an exile resistance group, and with the help of Czech and Slovak countrymen in the USA the legions in France, Russia, and Italy (Fig. 6,7,8). His "headquarters" were in London in a house on Platt's Lane, from which he directed the political, diplomatic, and military fight on the side of the Allies. With the decisive support of US president W. Wilson (Fig. 9) and thanks to the successful fight of the Czechoslovak legionnaires on all fronts, he was able to proclaim the Washington Declaration on October 18th, 1918 -- a proclamation of Czechoslovak independence (with the definitive title "Declaration of independence of the Czechoslovak nation by its Provisional government"). In 1932 on the occasion of the 200th birth anniversary of G. Washington (the first US president), T.G. Masaryk -- already president -- thanked the USA for their crucial support via a radio broadcast to the American people (Fig. 10).

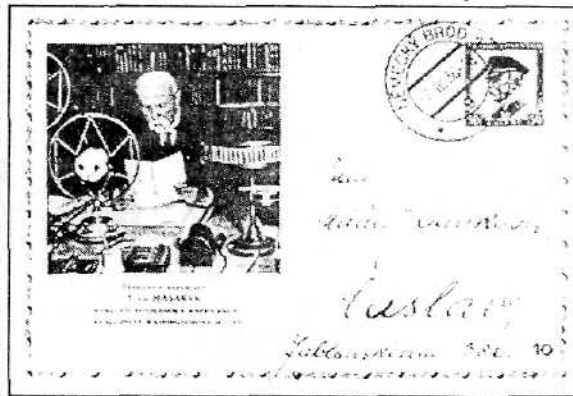


Fig. 10

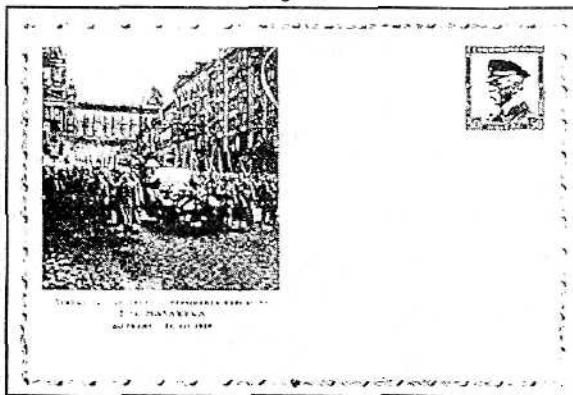


Fig. 11



Fig. 12

Not until December 1918 did Masaryk return to his liberated country via Russia, Japan, and the USA. He came to Prague on December 21, 1918, with enthusiastic citizens giving him a thunderous welcome (Fig. 11); the very same day he took the presidential oath in the National Parliament. "Pravda Vítězí" (The Truth Prevails) was inscribed on the presidential standard (Fig. 12); during WW II, it was commemorated on the special cancellations of the Cz. Field Post Offices in Great Britain (Fig. 13). President-Liberator T.G. Masaryk was our only statesman honored by the CSR National Parliament by statute for his service "for a free and independent people and nation" (quoted from the Washington Declaration) by means of a simple statement: "T.G. Masaryk Zasloužil Se O Stát" (T.G. Masaryk deserves credit for the State)(Fig. 14).



Fig. 13



Fig. 14



Fig. 15

T.G. Masaryk inscribed himself deeply into Czechoslovak and world philately. In 1960 the US postal service commemorated the 110th anniversary of the birth of T.G. Masaryk through two stamps of the Champions of Liberty issue (a 4 cent and an 8 cent) containing his portrait on a medal and the text "T.G. Masaryk -- patriot and first president of Czechoslovakia". Communist censorship -- as would be expected -- took

decisive measures against the remembrance of a president of a bourgeois Czechoslovakia. On mail sent from the USA to Czechoslovakia which had the Masaryk stamps on the envelope, the Prague 120 post office censor applied a label "Non admis/Nepřipustné" [inadmissible], had stamped or hand written on them the order "zpět" (Retour)[return], and without notifying the addressee returned it to the country of origin (Fig. 15). In this way, postal shipments bearing the Masaryk stamps became eloquent witnesses of that period.

In the USA the Masaryk name is even carried by the town of Masaryktown.

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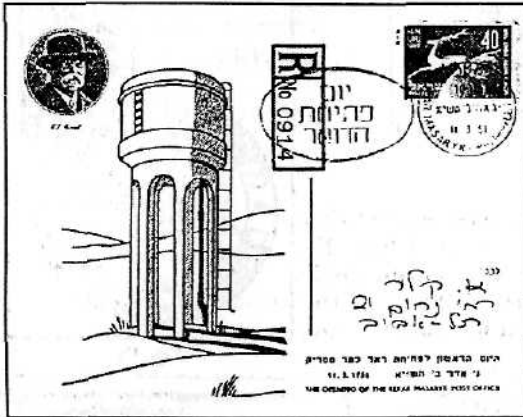


Fig. 16

1948 in the State of Israel) a kibbutz was named after Masaryk, Kfar Masaryk. Originally the kibbutz was founded in February 1933 by the followers of the youth movement Hasomer Hacair from Czechoslovakia and Lithuania. On March 14, 1940, the residents of the kibbutz renamed it using Masaryk's name. The rationale for the renaming was respect for the personage of the founder of Czechoslovakia, who was "the symbol of a fighter for democracy, freedom, and humanistic ideals, and a friend of the Jewish nation". On March 11, 1951, they opened a post office there with a regular postal cancel (Fig. 16). It was in existence until December 19, 1960, when it was closed. From December 20, 1960 until today, Kfar Masaryk and the entire region are served by an automobile post office.

But let us return to 1918 Czechoslovakia and T.G. Masaryk's arrival in his homeland and to Prague. In connection with his arrival on December 21, 1918, the Czech Scout postal service was resurrected to ensure Masaryk's arrival in Prague. The Czech Scout postal service stamps in the service of the National Government -- having values of 10h and 20h -- were overprinted with the text "Příjezd Presidenta Masaryka" (arrival of president Masaryk). The 20h stamps were used in the delivery of letters and telegrams. Meanwhile, there was only one telegram known having a 10h stamp (with the "Příjezd Presidenta Masaryk" overprint) affixed to it. It was mailed on December 20, 1918, to the National Committee in Prague from Horní Dvořiště (Fig. 17). It is in L. Pytlíček's exhibit "ČSR 1918-1939" which was awarded Large Gold Medal's at international FIP exhibitions; the telegram was first exhibited in 1999 in the court of honor at the

I am not sure if perhaps mail canceled by the regular postmark from this town was turned back. On the other hand, I have an envelope, a first day cover from 1958 containing another Champion of Liberty, Lajos Kossuth, which -- two years after the Hungarian "counter-revolution" in 1958 -- was returned back to the sender in the USA as "nepřipustná" (non-admissible), again without an explanation.

During the time when for the people's democratic Czechoslovakia and its representatives the name T.G. Masaryk was undesirable, in another country (Palestine, since



Fig. 17

CHINA'99 exhibition, and then again it was admired in the WIPA'00 exhibition court of honor in Vienna.

A second telegram with a 10h stamp with the Masaryk overprint just recently appeared in the exhibit "Scouting on Stamps -- Classics" of an American, Frederick P. Lawrence. At the ILSAPEX'98 exhibition in South Africa's Johannesburg, his exhibit dedicated to the scouting stamps of South Africa's Mafeking, the Czech Scout's issue, and the scouting issue of Siam was awarded a Vermeil medal. This exhibit did not yet contain the telegram from December 21, 1918 (Fig. 18). The content of this telegram is evident from this reproduction (copying it was approved by its owner). It was written by Rössler-Ořovský on an original telegraph form of the Imperial & Royal Austrian state railroads and

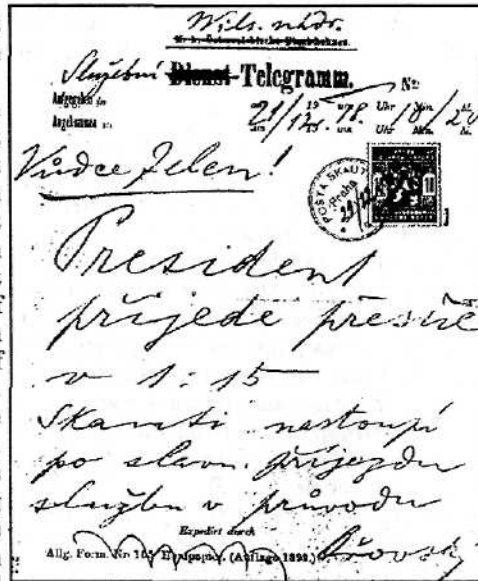


Fig. 18

mailed from the renamed Wilson railroad station at 10:20 with a message that "the President will arrive at 1:15 sharp". This telegram is without a doubt a piece of stationery of first class rarity.

The 150th anniversary of the first president of the independent Czechoslovak state, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, a personality of European and world renown reminds us of the democratic concepts of his work and the presidential tradition which is still alive in our country.

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Benes, V.: *Děti v bouři revoluce*. Komenium, Praha 1947.
 Machovec, M.: *Tomáš G. Masaryk*. Melantrich, Praha 1968.
 Kozák, J.B.: *T.G. Masaryk a vznik Washingtonské deklarace v říjnu 1918*. Melantrich, Praha 1968.

Briefly about the author:

Ing. Lumír Brendl (64), economist, now retired, chairman of SCF, juryman in FIP for thematic philately, delegate on the thematic committee of FIP, exhibitor of historical themes from the areas of ČSR and France, in philately he publishes on the areas of thematic philately.

[Ed. Note: The SPECIALIST is pleased to reprint the preceding article from FILATELIE 3/2000 with permission of the author and the editor.]

✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱

ERRATA

-- A sharp-eyed reader noticed that the March/April 2002 issue, page 19, had two references that didn't make sense. In the first paragraph on that page the Figure 30 reference should have read Figure 34, and in the last paragraph the Fig. 31A should have read Fig. 35. The editor regrets having fallen asleep on these points.

A NAIVE TRANSLATION OF *TISKOVÁ FORMA*

by Mark Wilson
trans. by Mark Wilson

First, I need to point out that I do not have even a novice's knowledge of the Czech language. The below translation was done to ease my frustration at finding so little technical information in English about the Hradčany issues, especially with respect to the production of full printing sheets. I am confident that any competent Czech speaker will be amused (and hopefully not offended) by my attempt. I would also hope to encourage other novices to try their hands at translation. At any rate, I offer below my rendition of the Tisková forma section of the description of the Hradčany issues from the Monografie Československých známek, Díl I, starting on page 97. I have substantially modified the Table found in the original text. That modified table appears as an appendix to this article.

The illustrations from the Monografie are not repeated here. As an aid to the novice, I would like to note that on first glance the sheet arrangement diagrams might appear a bit confusing. For instance, illustration 136A appears to describe plates for non-existent 51h and 101h stamps. Actually, the "1" really represents the stamp's design. Thus, the plates described in illustration 136A are for the 5h and the 10h stamps in the first Hradčany design. Some additional valuable information contained in the drawings indicates gutter sizes and plate numbers, and if the plates represent non-Hradčany issues, the type and value of those stamps.

Sheets (Printing Forms)

In order to take full advantage of the printing press and to achieve the required production levels, sheets printed from four plates were manufactured as a unit. Sheets containing two panes were produced only by exception. The individual plates were fixed to a single wooden supporting frame with small nails. Gaps between the plates ranging in width from 13 to 35.5 mm for the horizontal gutter, and from 62 to 77 mm for the vertical gutter, were filled with blank padding.¹

To satisfy the simultaneous need for various types of postal items, Hradčany stamps were printed on sheets alongside newspaper and postage due stamps. They were even tied to an entirely new issue. These combined printing sheets are illustrated in figures 132-135.

By splitting the roller, it was possible to apply different colors to each half of the full sheet. Plates for like-denomination stamps were placed one above the other, originally inverted with respect to each another, but later placed facing in the same direction. That is why, as a rule, full sheets produced pairs. If during this whole period only one plate was needed, a plate from another value or even a different type of stamp could be used with it.

In one instance, to take advantage of identical colors, an Hradčany plate was deliberately used with another plate on the same half-sheet and the other half of that sheet used for something entirely different. This happened when the 300h Hradčany plate with the 500h postage due plate was placed on one half-sheet, and two 80h Hradčany plates were used for the other half-sheet [fig. 139: C1].

Stamps of the 1000h value were printed alone on a half-sheet with the 200h stamps (leaving the other half-sheet blank). This may be seen in Figure 139: D2. In a like instance, the 500h value was printed alternately on each half-sheet with the

30h newspaper stamp. The sheet was run through the press repeatedly but rotated so as to print each type on both half-sheets [fig. 14: A]. Examples of these compound sheets are displayed in the Postal Museum. The juxtaposition of two different values brought about many variations in horizontal gutter pairs.

The tete-beche arrangement of 2h and 10h newspaper stamps were [sic] part of the initial December 16, 1918 printing. After printing 9,000 sheets the 10h plates were removed from the printing form. Subsequently, after another 1,500 2h sheets were printed, the 2h newspaper stamp plates (again in tete-beche form) were joined with the 3h Hradčany plate. Printing in this arrangement resumed on December 19th, and the stamps continued being printed that way from then on [fig 137: A1, A2].

The useful output for a printing form was 40,000 sheets. When this level was reached, the form was taken apart, the needed plates cleaned, then placed in reassembled or new forms. Technical evidence for these rearrangements may be found in vertical gutter differences and changes in the nail marks.

For the initial printings, Lešetický² released many of these details. During the later printing period, however, less information was made available. Sheets printed after the initial runs are found with wide margins, in trial prints, and in ruined sheets (figures 136-144).

Sheets from these printings were cut into individual panes. But these cuts were often not parallel, because pieces come to light with both very wide and very narrow margins. We might well wonder if the sheets put into use were cut in only one direction as well-preserved half-sheets cut in the same direction are often found. Whole sheets are on display at the Postal Museum.

Every day 4 or 5 million stamps were printed. This adds up to a total Hradčany issue of approximately 750,000,000 perforated and 414,000,000 imperforate stamps. It is a wonder that 250 working days over 22 months could actually satisfy this need for more than a billion stamps. The enormity of the effort undertaken in servicing the issue of these Hradčany combined sheets, together with newspaper stamps, postage dues, express stamps, the Legion issue, the SO overprints of 1920, the Red Cross issue, and the airmail stamps of 1920, as well as new types of annual issues, must in part explain production lapses and errors.

The official bulletins first announced stamps bearing the image of the Hradčany in the values of 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 100, 200, and 400. They establish the date of the first printing as December 16, 1919 [sic. 1918]. The first to be printed were the 5h and 10h, released on December 18, 1918. On that occasion a commemorative sheet bearing the signatures of those responsible for the creation of the first Czechoslovakian postage stamp was issued.³

Appendix

Stamps known to have been printed together are:^{4,5}

Hradčany Alone

1 with 5 (5 th)	Fig. 141A	20 and 10 (both 5 th)	Fig. 140E
1 with 10 (1 st)	Fig. 141B	20 and 25 (both 1 st)	Fig. 136B1;137C3
3 with 20 (1 st)	Fig. 137C2	20 and 30 (both 1 st)	Fig. 136B2
5 only (1 st)	Fig. 140A1	25 (1 st) and 15	Fig. 140B1
5 only (5 th)	Fig. 140C2 ⁶	25 (5 th) alone	Fig. 140D
5 and 10 (both 1 st)	Fig. 136A	25 (5 th) and 15	Fig. 140B2
5 (sic 1 st) and 400	Fig. 140A2 ⁷	40 and 100	Fig. 139A2 ⁸

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5 (5 th) and 15	Fig. 141E	60 and 3	Fig. 139B
5 (5 th) and 100	Fig. 141C	80 and 100	Fig. 139C3
5 (5 th) and 120	Fig. 140C1,C3	200 and 100	Fig. 138,139A1,D1
10 and 30 (both 1 st)	Fig. 141D	200 and 500	Fig. 141G
10 (5 th) and 15	Fig. 141F	200 and 1000	Fig. 139D2
20 only(1 st)	Fig. 137C1 ⁹	400 and 100	Fig. 139A3

With Newspaper Stamps

3 and 2	Fig. 137A1,A2 ¹⁰	30 (5 th) and 2	Fig. 142E
5 (5 th) and 2	Fig. 142A	50 (3 rd) and 2	Fig. 142F
5 (5 th) and 10 (nov)	Fig. 142B	50 (3 rd) and 6	Fig. 142G
10 (1 st) and 2	Fig. 136C1,C2 ¹¹	75 and 2	Fig. 142H
15 and 2	Fig. 142C ¹²	75 and 20 (nov)	Fig. 142I
15 and 6	Fig. 142E ¹³	500 and 30 (nov)	Fig. 142K

With Postage Due Stamps

5 (5 th) and 50 (dop)	Fig. 143A ¹⁴	80, 300 and 500(dop)	Fig. 139C1
10 (1 st) and 50 (dop)	Fig. 137B	400 and 1000 (dop)	Fig. 143C
200 and 25 (dop)	Fig. 143B		

With Carrier Pigeon Stamps

30 (5th) and 15 (hol) Fig. 144

¹The *Monographie, Dil 1*, p.101 itself contradicts this assertion. Illustration 138 shows a vertical gutter of 61.5 mm, thus less than the 62 mm minimum described in the statement.

²Jaroslav Lešetický, an expert collector and journalist employed by the Czechoslovak Postal Administration.

³See *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Nov/Dec 2001, p.7 for an illustration of this commemorative sheet.

⁴This table is substantially modified from the original text in an attempt to improve clarity. Also, unlike the original, the illustrations have been associated with the text.

⁵Nothing is known about what might have been printed with the 50 (5th) Hradčany stamp.

⁶This entry does not appear in the text, but the illustration is present.

⁷Although the text says first design, the illustration says fifth design.

⁸This entry does not appear in the text, but the illustration is present.

⁹This entry is repeated in the text.

¹⁰This entry is repeated in the text.

¹¹This entry does not appear in the text, but the illustration is present.

¹²This entry does not appear in the text, but the illustration is present.

¹³This entry does not appear in the text, but the illustration is present.

¹⁴The text says 50 (dop), the illustration shows 30 (dop).

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THE 1972 PÍSEK STAMP EXHIBITION AND THE OLDEST STONE BRIDGE IN BOHEMIA

by G. M. van Zanten

A very handsome cover with a 60h stamp imprint was issued on May 20, 1972 for the above exhibition (Fig. 1).

The stamp part depicts a view of the town with the stone bridge in the foreground. The bridge dates from 1265 and is believed to be the oldest stone bridge in Bohemia. It crosses the Otava river.

The cachet depicts a parapeted gate surmounted by twin towers and a shield with the Czech lion between the towers. Below the gate is shown an avalanche of "letters", which in turn surround the logo of the exhibition, all surrounded by the



Fig. 1

Czech text: "CELOSTÁTNÍ VÝSTAVA SPECIALIZOVANÝCH OBORŮ VE FILATELIÍ • PÍSEK 1972".

Both stamp and cachet were designed by C. Bouda and engraved by L. Jirka. Colors of the stamp impression are blue and orange, the cachet is in red. Only 5600 of this cover were printed.

As stated above, the bridge dates from 1265. Legend has it that when the bridge was completed the councilors could not agree on a name for it. Thus it was decided to name it after

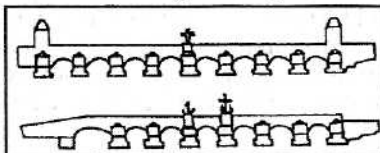


Fig. 2

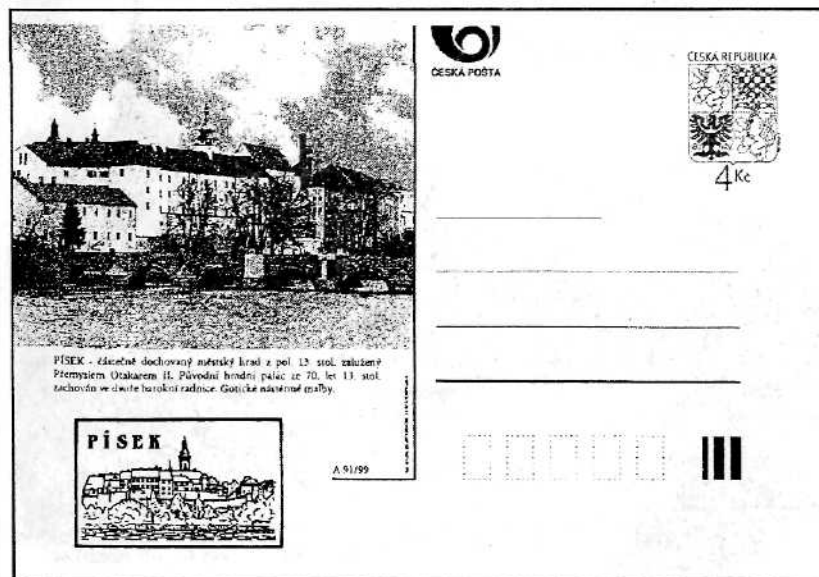


Fig. 3

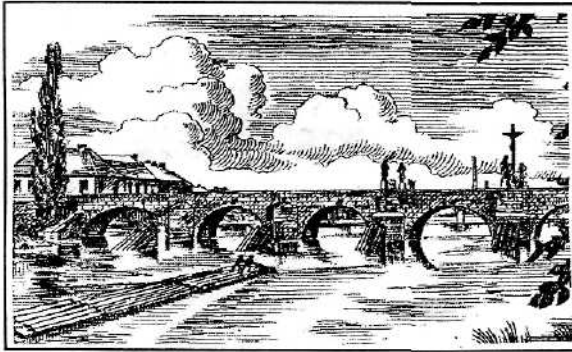


Fig. 4

whoever was the first one to cross the bridge. This happened to be a scared stag which came from the woods and which gave it the name "Stag Bridge" (Jelení most). Problem solved!

The bridge is 111 meters long, has 7 arches, and was decorated with statues between 1754 and 1757.

The tower gateway on the left bank was swept away by floods in 1768 -- one of several floods. The gate on the right-

hand side was demolished in 1825. The latest maintenance commenced in 1996. The old and new silhouettes of the bridge are shown in Figure 2.

The town of Písek got its name from the sand (písek) from which gold was separated in early times.

Písek was founded in 1243 by Přemysl Otakar II and is situated on the old "Golden Path" -- the trading route to Bavaria -- the raison d'être for the town's foundation. The town rose to prosperity in the Middle Ages through the sifting of gold bearing sand from the river bed. The surrounding region called PÍSECKO is a traditional gold-panning area. North of the town the Otava river widens dramatically near its junction with the Vltava river and the Orlik dam (see my recent article, Jan/Feb 2002 SPECIALIST, p16).



Fig. 5

Modern Písek has approximately 30,000 inhabitants. Card #A91 in the current series shows a view of the bridge and town (Fig. 3). The two engravings shown as Figures 4 and 5 were in the 1972 Písek stamp exhibition catalogue. An earlier stamp exhibition held in 1941 shows a few buildings of the town as well as one of the statues on the bridge (Fig. 6). The reverse of this card shows the PÍSEK 1 postmark in German and Czech (Fig. 7).

Some personalities with connections to Písek were the violinist and music teacher Otakar Ševčík (1852-1934) who lived and died in Písek.

Another, of course, will be better known to most of our readers, namely the painter Mikoláš Aleš (1852-1913). He was born in Mírotice u Písku, which is a mere 16 km northwest of Písek.

Mikoláš Aleš, painter and illustrator. Leading figure of the national painting tradition, outstanding personality of the National Theater generation. Studied at the Prague Art Academy. Influenced by the works of Josef Mánes, he decided to place his art in the service of his native country and nation struggling for national recognition.

The center of Aleš' creation is in numerous drawings inspired by the Czech and Slovak past, in unique illustrations to folk songs and proverbs, expressing the distinctive character of the Czech countryside. With his talent in inventive composition he was predestined to feature as painter of monumental cycles; he also produced a number of cartoons for graffiti and wall paintings.

Two identical stamps commemorating 100 years of his birth were issued on 30 August 1952 (Fig. 8). Finally, shown here is an engraving of him by M. Švabinsky (Fig. 9).

Two more stamps for the same anniversary were issued on 18 November 1952. Only the 2 Kčs value concerns us here since it depicts Matej Louda from Chlumčan on the Písek stone bridge by Aleš (Fig. 10).

Matej Louda from Chlumčan "On the Písek stone bridge" -- drawing in charcoal on paper from 1899, 157 x 318.5 cm (National Gallery, k13183). Marked in the lower left: MIK·ALEŠ. Original Aleš' cartoon for the decoration of Dvořáček house in Písek, part of a cycle produced to honor



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

National Theater. He was both a painter and an illustrator. His drawings are found in hundreds of books.

¹From *UMĚNÍ NA ZNÁMKÁCH* (art on stamps) published for the PRAGA'88 exhibition, translated by Vladimír Kralíček.



Fig. 10

his native country. Carried out in graffiti and colored fresco by Josef Bosáček after Aleš' cartoon in the 2nd floor parapet band. This 2 Kčs stamp was part of the series "100th anniversary of Mikoláš Aleš birthday" issued in 1952. It was designed by Karel Svolinský and engraved by Jindra Schmidt.¹

Footnote: Mikoláš Aleš was one of the best loved Czech painters. He created among others a cycle of frescoes called "Má Vlast" decorating the foyer of the

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**ČSR I Specialization
A NOTE ON THE PARTITION TYPES OF THE
HRADČANY STAMPS**

**by Jaroslav Maleček
trans. by Peter Z. Kleskovic**

Recently Prague POFIS published the catalog ČESKOSLOVENSKA 1918-1939. A great advantage of this catalog is its systematically clear arrangement and its understandable organization of the drawings, perforations, and types of the Hradčany stamp issues. Its author, Mgr. Ing. František Beneš, ČSc., produced a perfect piece of work. I would like to suggest for the next edition of the catalog the possibility of its further expansion to include the vertical partition types found on the right side of the stamps of the fifth Hradčany design.

In 1971 František Fryč had already written about his knowledge on this topic in *Filatelie* (pages 426-428):

“The right vertical partition was engraved along its entire length in the 10h (in ZP 55/1), 75h (ZP 1 and ZP 2), and 500h (ZP 93/1) values. Dr. Kubát calls the partition types Type II and divides them into three categories based upon the character of repairs made to them:

- partition Type IIA has an interconnection to the inner cross-piece of the perpendicular;
- partition Type IIB the perpendicular is tangent to the third spiral;
- partition Type IIC has an interconnection, which ends opposite the lower binding.”

Almost 30 years have gone by since the publishing of František Fryč's article. A lot has changed -- for instance, today's Hradčany collectors number the spirals differently than did Dr. Kubát, such that with partition Type IIB the perpendicular is tangent to the seventh spiral (however, the specialists are aware of this).

These facts, however, are not even included in the specialized handbook *Rukověť Sběratele Hradčan* (The Handbook of Hradčany Collectors) by František Hamr and Jiří Škaloud.

I believe there are two reasons why the right partition types are ignored by collectors. It is partly because they were not popularized in the literature, and partly because they were not clearly described and classified. Therefore, I would like to recommend that the right partition types be further divided into two basic categories, similar to what has been done with the spiral and left partition types.



Fig. 1

**10h Hradčany (Pof. 6, 6A, 6B, 6C) and
10h Hradčany SO 1920 (Pof. SO4, 4A, 4B, 4C)**

- **Type I:** the right partition has an approximate 2 mm break in its length -- found on all ZP of both TD except ZP 55/I (Fig. 1)

- **Type II:** the right partition is unbroken -- found on ZP 55/I (Fig. 2)



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

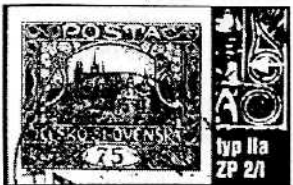


Fig. 4

75h Hradčany (Pof. 18), 75h SO 1920 (Pof. SO15), and

Postage Due 50/75h and 60/75h (Pof. DL19 and 22)

- **Type I:** the right partition has an approximate 1.5 - 2.5 mm break -- found on all ZP of both TD except ZP 1/I, 2/I, and 21/I (Fig. 3)

- **Type IIa:** the right partition is unbroken and does not touch the seventh spiral -- found on ZP 2/I (Fig. 4)

- **Type IIb:** the right partition is unbroken and touches like a tangent to the seventh spiral -- found on ZP 1/I (Fig. 5)

- **Type IIc:** the right partition is unbroken (on some stamps -- from the mid-point of the binding downward -- it is thinned so much as to become indistinct) and does not touch the seventh spiral -- found on ZP 2/I (Fig. 6)



Fig. 5

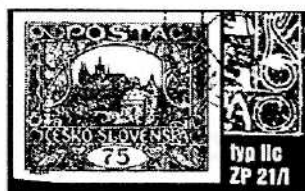


Fig. 6

500h Hradčany (Pof. 25), 500h SO 1920 (Pof. SO22), and

Airmail 24 Kč/500h (L2, L2A, L2B)

- **Type I:** the right partition has an approximate 2 mm break in its length -- found on all ZP of both TD except ZP 93/I (Fig. 7)

- **Type II:** the right partition is almost unbroken (only a small break of approximately 0.25 mm opposite the middle of the seventh spiral) -- found on ZP 93/I (Fig. 8)



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

I believe that the right partition types of the fifth Hradčany design issues are completely apparent and deserve not only collector's attention, but also an appropriate valuation in Czechoslovak stamp catalogs. These 75h stamps have exactly the same valuation as the Type I spiral or the Type II left vertical partition stamps, and the 500h stamps have even double the value of the spiral or partition types. In this article I have presented all of the values in which the correct partition types could appear. They are only documented, however, with the 10h, 75h, and 500h Hradčany values (except the 10h imperforated) and the provisional postage due stamps. Until now I have been unable to document the existence of these types in stamps with the SO 1920 and airmail overprints, despite the fact that I am sure they also exist. Should you find these in your collection, we will be more than happy to publish the news.

Publisher's Note: Mgr. Jaroslav Maleček's article shows that philatelic practice frequently develops in a different way than theoretical premises. Even though in the

described situation the noted types arose as a result of direct engraving into the printing plates, nevertheless these types remained on the periphery of interest of philatelists and are considered only in highly specialized studies. From this viewpoint, we are even judging J. Maleček's closing note regarding the appropriate valuation of the indicated right partition types -- talking about, for the time being, about a comparison of the true occurrence scarcity rather than their real monetary value.

[Ed. Note: The SPECIALIST is pleased to reprint the preceding article from Filatelie 1/2000 with permission of the author and the editor.]

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DVOŘÁK & PHILATELY

by Richard Beith

The Dvořák Museum, Ke Karlovu 20, Prague 2, is situated in the Vila Amerika in a quiet street just to the south of the Prague city center. On Tuesday, 14 May 2002, a small but fascinating temporary exhibition was opened devoted to Czechoslovak stamps and postmarks relating to this most famous of all Czech composers. The Czech Postal Museum had cooperated in this enterprise, loaning original graphics, black prints, part sheets of stamps and in providing specimen strikes of relevant commemorative cancellations.

Also shown were stamps featuring Josef Suk, Dvořák's favorite pupil (and later his son-in-law) and the violinist František Ondříček who gave the first performance of Dvořák's violin concerto. Dvořák has also appeared on the stamps of two other countries, the Republic of Guinea and Slovenia, and these were included.

The exhibition was opened with speeches in Czech and English given by PhDr Jarmila Tauerová, Museum Director, and by Dr Jan Dehner, Exhibition Curator. The Curator pointed out that the designer of the Guinea stamp was unaware that the opera depicted on the stamp, "The Devil and Kate", was a comedy and not a dark tale of the supernatural! The opening included piano solos and violin and piano duets by young soloists and a glass of wine. The audience included a group from the Dvořák Society of Great Britain and at least two members of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain!

This display enhances the permanent collection which includes Dvořák's own Bösendorfer grand piano. The philatelic material will remain on display until October 2002 with the possibility of an extension to spring 2003. Potential visitors should note that the Museum, like nearly all museums in the Czech Republic, is not open on Mondays. Nearest Metro Station: I P Pavlova (line C).

[Ed. Note: See additional information of this event in the Letters to the Editor column.]

EARLY USAGE OF THE HRADČANY ISSUE II

by Lubor Kunc

In *The Czechoslovak SPECIALIST* No. 6/2001 my article "Early Usage of the Hradčany Issue" was published. I would like to share with you some interesting philatelic items that I received from readers of the *SPECIALIST* from the USA as well as Europe.

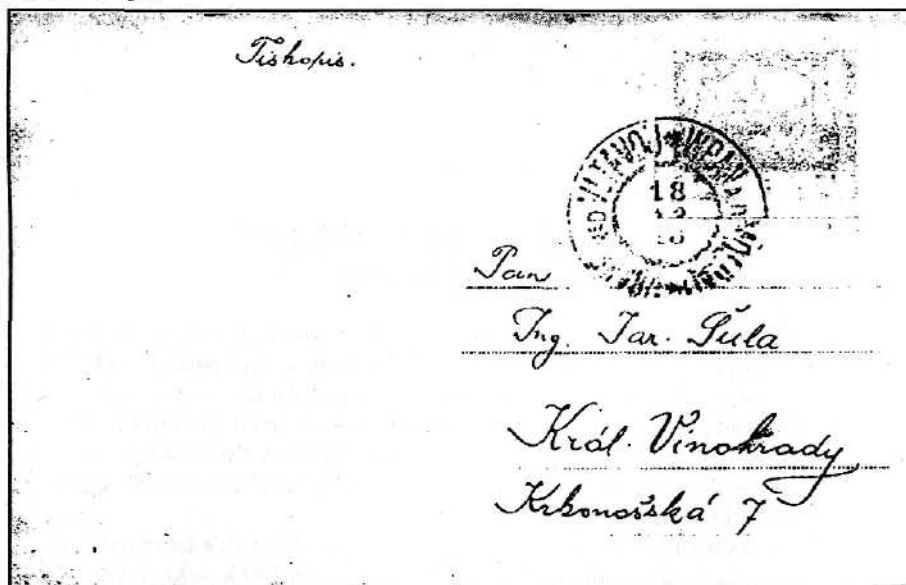


Fig. 1

Let's start with the first item (Fig. 1). This is a letter sent from Vrané nad Vltavou to Prague on Dec. 18, 1918. This first-day letter was sent as printed matter (see the word "tiskopis"), so it was franked with the printed matter rate of 5 heller. Such items are really not found very often! The letter is a philatelic one as its addressee was the famous collector Jaroslav Šula, who could be the sender of the letter.

The early usage of Hradčany stamps in December 1918 can be documented by the cards shown in Figures 2 and 3. Both were mailed on Dec. 31, 1918, one from Prague and the other from Mnichovo Hradiště. The cards are non-philatelic since both were posted to express New Year's wishes for 1919.

As you will see, the next two entires are quite different from the ones above.

The card in Figure 4 seems like mixed franking with Czechoslovak and Italian stamps, but the reality is a bit different. This card was sent in December 1918 by an Italian soldier serving in the Italian corps in Slovakia, probably at the Italian field post office Poste Militare 52, which was located in Kroměříž (Moravia, near the Slovak border).

The Italian soldiers had to pay postage for their mail, so the sender paid it by one 10 centime Italian stamp, which was enough to frank the card. The Italian



Fig. 2

stamp was canceled by the Poste Militare 52 field post cancel. In addition to this stamp he affixed the Czechoslovak 10 heller Hradčany stamp, which was canceled at the civil post office KROMĚŘÍŽ 1 on Dec. 30, 1918. Because the Italian stamp satisfied the entire postage, the Hradčany stamp was not needed, and the card cannot be described as mixed franking. On the other hand, it is very interesting, because it is in close association with the founding of the Czechoslovak field post in

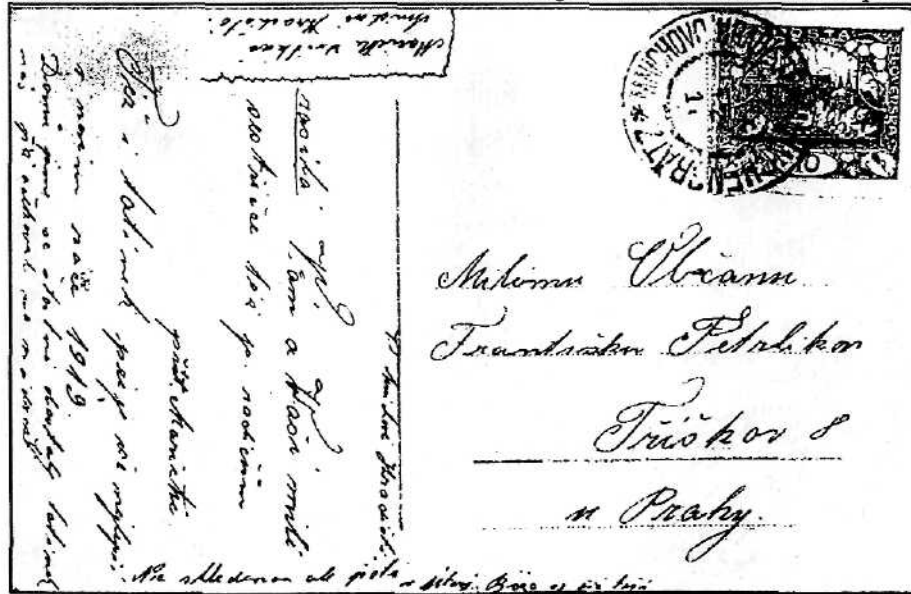


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

Slovakia (only two days later, on Jan. 1, 1919) and with the Italian contribution to the incorporation of Slovakia into Czechoslovakia. This card is reprinted from the "Monograph of Czechoslovak Field Post 1918-1921" published in England in 2002. The last letter (which was already shown on page 33 of the Mar/Apr issue as

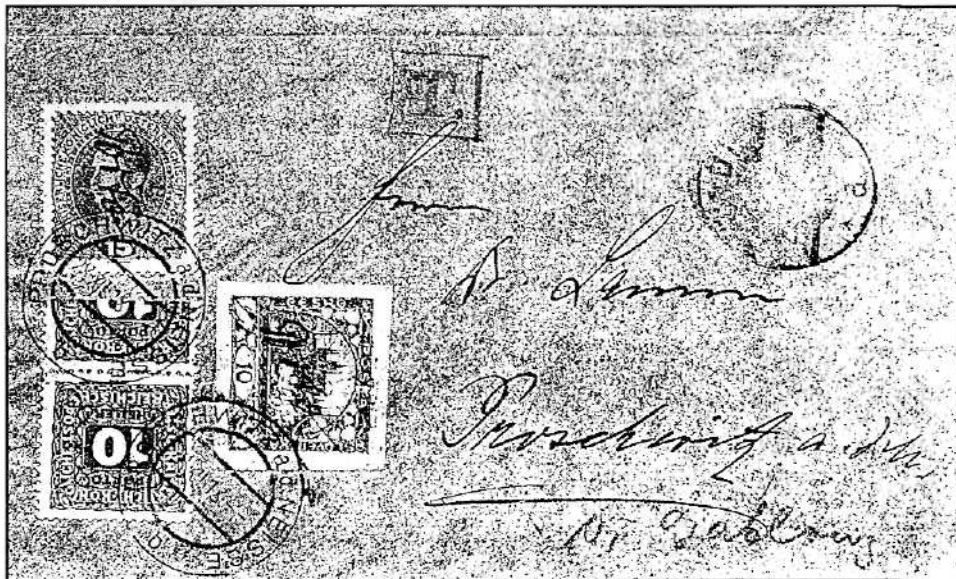


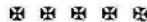
Fig. 5

Figure 12) shows another important sign of that time -- the use of definitive stamps as postage due at Czechoslovak post offices. This was caused by the fact that postage stamps were centrally distributed in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy from Vienna and Budapest, and after the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, no new supplies of them were delivered to our post offices. In the case where the postage due stamps were exhausted, the postmen used definitive stamps overprinted/overwritten by words such as "porto", "Doplatné", "T", etc.

The letter in Figure 5 was, in my opinion, prepared by a stamp collector in co-operation with a postman from the Proschwitz a.d. Neisse post office. The letter was to be sent from Haida to Proschwitz, but it was not franked by any stamps, so the Haida post office placed the boxed "T" (= missing postage) cancel on the cover.

The normal postage at that time amounted to 20 heller, so the amount collected from the addressee was 40 heller. The postman from Proschwitz affixed one and a half old Austrian postage due stamps (15 heller), an old Austrian definitive stamp showing the last emperor, Charles I, with the overwritten "porto" (15 heller), and one Hradčany stamp with the same overwriting (10 heller). In my opinion such franking was not as a result of the real postal need, rather it shows that since the post office had postage due stamps available, a collector probably wanted to document the validity of the old Austrian and new Czechoslovak stamps.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to all the contributors of the article: Mr. Backeljauw of Belgium, Mr. G. Day of England, and Mr. A.F. Dewey of the USA. Without their kind co-operation these interesting entires would be unknown to us. The search continues -- we are all looking forward to your discoveries!



NAPEX'02 WINNERS

by Ludvik Z. Svoboda

There were 49 competitive exhibits at NAPEX'02 and an amazing 29% of them (14) were from our Society members and garnered 5 Gold, 5 Vermeil, 1 Single-Frame Gold, and 3 Single-Frame Vermeil medals, and 6 Special awards! In addition, Henry Hahn's previous gold medal exhibit, *Czechoslovakia - The First Republic (1918-1938)*, was displayed in the Court of Honor.

The highlights of the SCP member Czechoslovak stamp exhibits are:

-- Hans van Dooremalen, *Postal History of Brno Up to 1875*; Gold, plus the first recipient of the new Society Gold medal selected by the Show Jury for the best Czechoslovak exhibit

-- Milan Černík, *Czechoslovakia: Double Postcards in Postal Use From 1918 to 1939*; Vermeil, plus the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors: Award of Honor - Creativity Award; and the Upper Bongoland Collectors Club: The Dr. Kwame Obeye-Amin Novice Award (Fig. 1). This last one needs some explanation. It was established a few years ago after a NAPEX official devised a one-frame exhibit of Upper Bongoland, complete with stamps, essays, proofs, imperfs, overprints, covers, etc. The only problem was there was no such country! It is now given to the best novice exhibit.

-- Jan Verlag, *Postal History and Stamps of the Carpatho-Ukraine 1786-1945*; Vermeil



UPPER BONGOLAND COLLECTORS CLUB

The Dr. Kwame Obeye-Amin NOVICE AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Milan Cernik

FOR THE EXHIBIT ENTITLED
Czechoslovakia: Double Postcards in Postal Use
from 1918 to 1939

AT

NAPEX 2002

JURY CHAIRMAN

SHOW CHAIRMAN



Fig. 1

-- Jaroslav J. Verner, *Czechoslovakia: Air Mail Issues of the First Republic*; Vermeil

-- Kimber A. Wald, *Czechoslovakia Postage Dues: The Stamps and Their Application During the First Republic*; Vermeil

-- Olech W. Wyslowsky, *Czechoslovakia, Hradčany Issue and Usages*

The remainder of the SCP member exhibits are:

-- Anthony F. Dewey, *First UN Issue, 1951*; Gold, plus the American Philatelic Society Award of Excellence, Predominately 1940-1980

-- Stephen I. Frater, *The Stampless Mail in Hungary, 1700-1850*; Gold, plus the Society for Hungarian Philately Best Exhibit Award

-- Alfred F. Kugel, *The Break-up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire 1918-1923*; Gold, plus the American Philatelic Society Award of Excellence, Predominately 1900-1940

-- Hans van Dooremalen, *USA Postal Cards*; Gold

-- Kimber A. Wald, *Great Britain: The Additional Halfpenny Mail Tax, 1813-1839*; Single-Frame Gold

-- Anthony F. Dewey, *Service of Intellectual Aid to Prisoners of War*; Single-Frame Vermeil

-- Alfred F. Kugel, *Austria-Hungary's Vistula Flotilla in World War I*; Single-Frame Vermeil

-- Alfred F. Kugel, *Austro-Hungarian Naval Aviation on the Adriatic*; Single-Frame Vermeil

The philatelic jury included: Stephen Reinhard, Chair - New York, Jay T. Carrigan - North Carolina, Kalman V. Illyefalvi - Maryland, John S. Keenlyside -- British Columbia, Martin D. Richardson - Ohio.

A separate Society jury, appointed by SCP President, Richard Palaschak, made the following presentations of the SCP awards at the Society breakfast: Gold -- Hans van Dooremalen, Silver -- Milan Černík, Bronze -- Olech W. Wyslowsky.



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

(Continued from previous issue)

By October 1918, it was clear that Austria would lose the war. On Oct. 25 the Hungarian government resigned, and on the next day the new Austrian Emperor Karl I sent a message to the German Emperor Vilem informing him that the Austrian population was not prepared to continue the war. The German answer was that Austria has to fight and that the negotiations for peace can only be done under the supervision of the German Monarchy. On Oct. 28, 1918 the Národní Výbor in Prague and the Polish Committee in Cracow declared the independence of their countries, and on the next day the independence of Slovenia and Croatia was declared. On October 30 the Slovak deputies declared their independence from Hungary, and the new state of German Austria was established in Vienna.

On Nov. 3, 1918 the Austro-Hungarian Field Post service ended, and on the



Fig. 55

next day the armistice was signed on the last Austrian battle line with Italy. Finally, on Nov. 11, 1918, WW I ended!

But let us go back to the soldiers on the battle lines. Even though the Czechoslovak Republic was declared, the Czech and Slovak soldiers serving in the

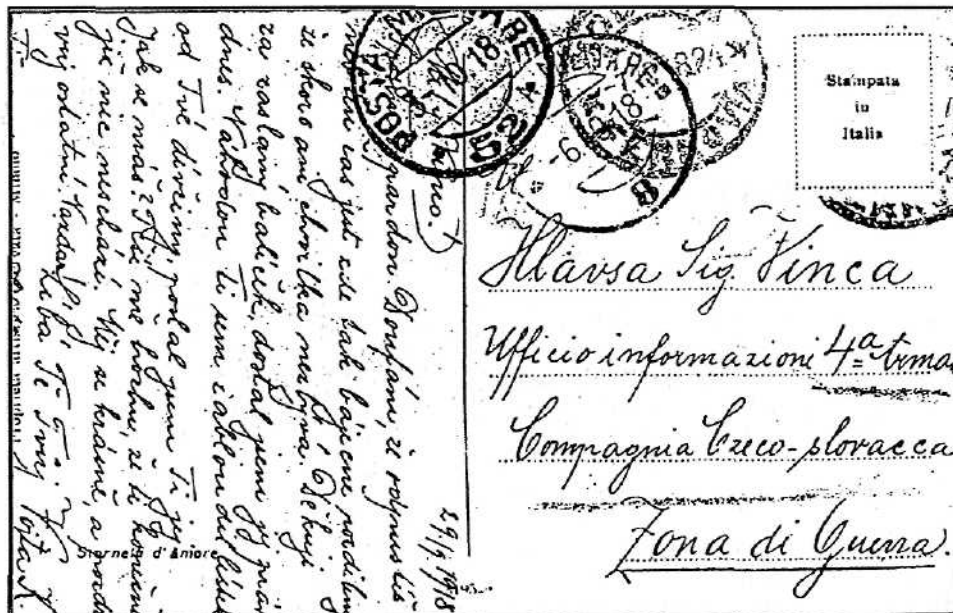


Fig. 56

Austro-Hungarian Army remained in battles. An example of this is a card sent on October 28, 1918 from Mladá Boleslav (Jungbunzlau on the day of Czechoslovakia's independence) to the Austrian military port located in Pola to a Czech student sailor (Fig. 55).

I would like to bring something to your attention here. Usually the members of the Czech legions are celebrated as heroes, while the Czechoslovak members of the Austrian army are forgotten. This is not right, because both sides survived similar situations, and while one of the sides was fighting for the right idea and the other for the wrong one, none of them should be forgotten. An example of how connected their military actions were can be found on cards at Figures 56 and 57. They come from October and November 1918 when the worst battles occurred on the front with Italy, and Czech and Slovak soldiers were fighting on both sides.

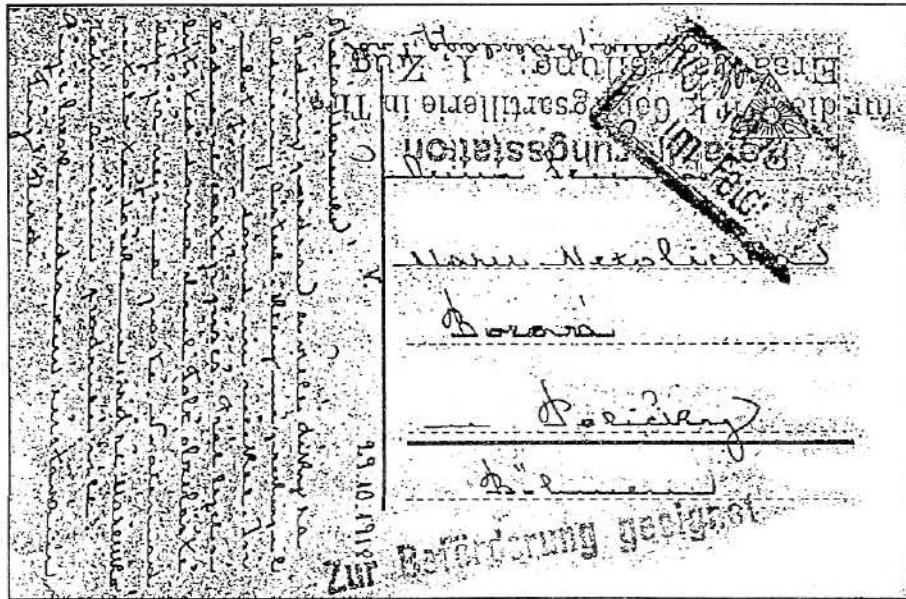


Fig. 57

The card at Figure 56 was sent from the Italian town of Modena in October 1918 to a member of the Czech Legion in Italy located in "Zona di Guerra". The sender franked the card, but the stamps were torn off by the censor. The card bears the cancels of two Italian field post offices, no. 8 and no. 52.

The card at Figure 57 was sent on Oct. 29, 1918 by a Czech soldier serving in the Austrian Army on the Italian battle line. This proves that our people had to serve in the Austrian Army after the creation of Czechoslovakia. The card bears the well known cancellation "Von Arme im Felde" and, in addition, a censorship cancel "Zur Beförderung geeignet".

When WW I ended, all the soldiers returned home. Some interesting proof is the card shown at Figures 58 and 59. This is business correspondence between the Directorship for Post and Telegraph Offices in Bohemia located in Prague and the post office of Varnsdorf in Northern Bohemia (which probably belonged at the time to The German Bohemia Province -- see the Czechoslovak SPECIALIST No. 4 of

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

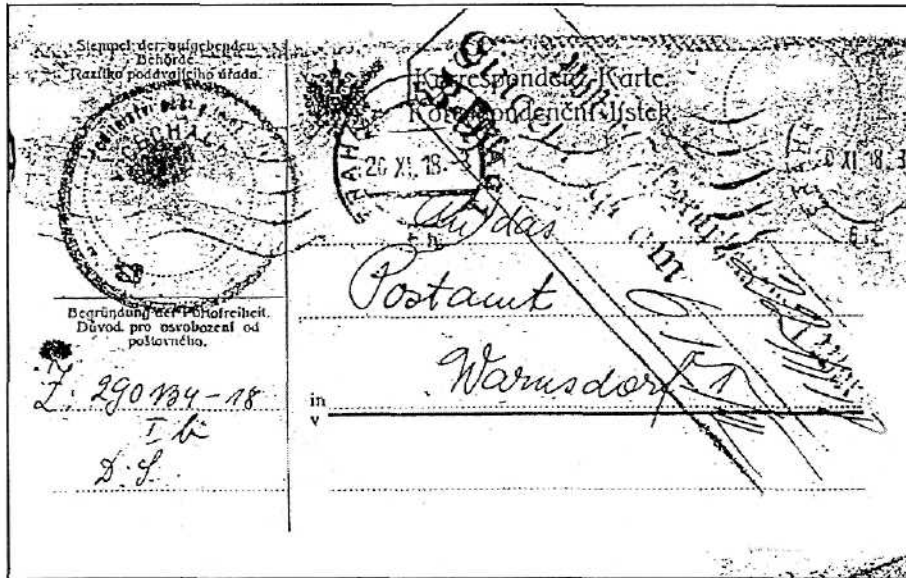


Fig. 58

1999). The above Directorship was informing the post office that Alois Zettl -- a soldier returned from war -- would be sick until Dec. 8, 1918, but that on December 9 he should be employed at the post office.

Another example is the card at Figure 60 sent from České Budějovice on Jan. 2, 1919 by a Czech legionnaire from the 21st Regiment in France during his return home. But his return was not like he had dreamed, because the regiment was soon

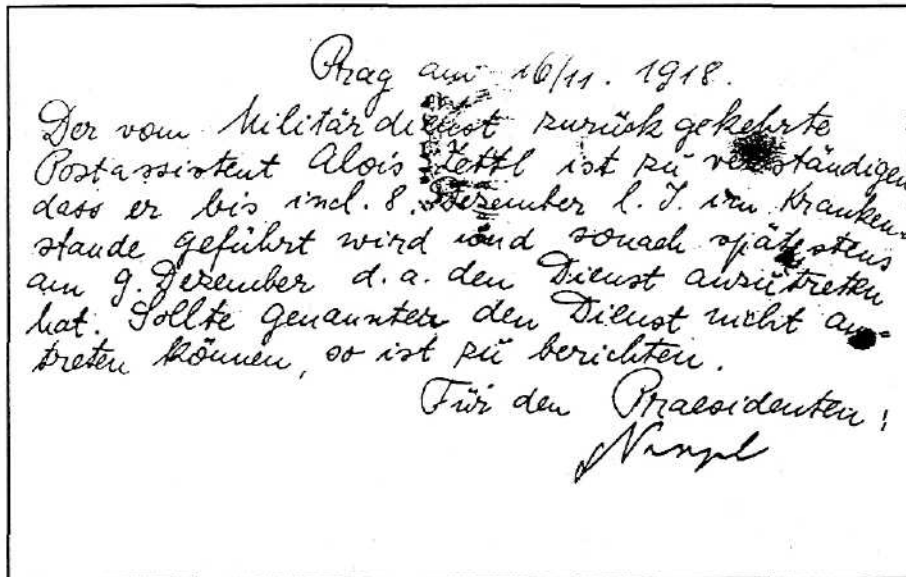


Fig. 59

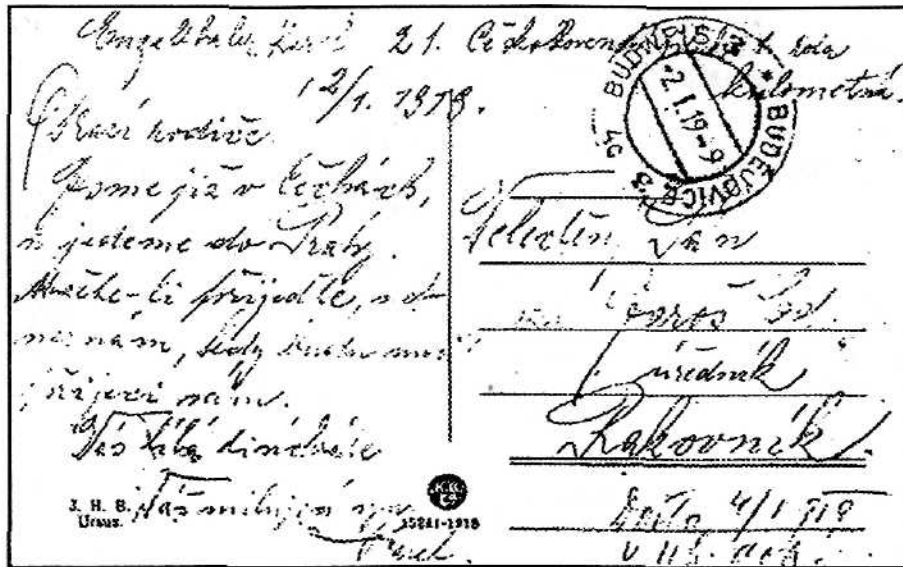


Fig. 60

moved to Silesia and played an important role in the liberation of the Těšín territory as described later.

In November 1918 there was an interesting situation in Czechoslovakia, because in October 1918, four German states were established on Czech territory (The German Bohemia Province, The Sudetenland Province, The Southern Moravia Province, and the Böhmerwaldgau Province) and an important part of Slovakia came under the influence of Hungary. In dealing with these situations, immediately after the creation of the state there was a call for volunteers for service in Czechoslovak military units. Other sources of soldiers were the legions of Italy and France who had returned home, and the soldiers returning from the Austrian Army. From the three sources the Czechoslovak regular army was created. The Army waited to fight until a sufficient quantity of Czechoslovak volunteers and legionnaires were available. This occurred late in November, at which time the Czechoslovak government ordered the occupation of the four German states, and when -- with over 7,000 men -- it started the liberation of Slovakia.

Unfortunately, there are no postal items showing the liberation of these areas under the control of the German states. There was no field post. If the soldiers mailed any messages, it must have been done via civilian post offices (with postage payment). This military action started on Nov. 29, 1918 and ended in December 1918.

(To Be Continued)

[Ed. Note: I have received a number of comments and clarifications already on the first couple of parts of this extensive article. Rather than try to run them as Letters to the Editor piecemeal, I am holding them all for a follow-up article which will appear in the Jan/Feb 2003 issue of the SPECIALIST, so watch for it then.]

Sister Society News
Society for Czechoslovak Philately in the Netherlands

**INTERNATIONAL MEETING
FOR COLLECTORS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA**
by Hans van Dooremalen

Our Dutch "Vereniging voor Tsjecholsowakije-Filatelie" (Society for Czechoslovak Philately) will organize an international meeting for collectors of Czechoslovakia on the occasion of the FEPA patronized exhibition AMPHILEX 2002 in Amsterdam. For this special meeting we gladly invite our friends from our sister societies in the USA, the UK, Germany, and the Czech Republic.

The meeting will be held on Sunday, September 1, 2002 in

Pax Partycentre
Ferdinand Bolstraat 194
1072 LW Amsterdam
tel. 020-6713804/6734726

and will consist of 2 parts:

-- an afternoon program with international speakers

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|---|
| 3:00 pm | Opening, word of welcome | |
| 3:15 pm | Henry Hahn | Czechoslovakia Before Number 1 |
| 3:50 pm | Hartmut Liebermann | The post-war period 1945-47 in Bohemia and Moravia -- a most interesting, but so far underestimated subject of postal history |
| 4:25 pm | Coffee break | |
| 4:55 pm | Pavel Pittermann | New Trends of Collecting in Czechoslovak Philately -- Fakes, Forgeries, Experts |
| 5:30 pm | Discussion | |
| 5:45 pm | Closing of the meeting | |
| | -- an evening buffet dinner | |
| 6:00 pm | Aperitif and dinner | |

Pax Partycentre is within walking distance from the RAI building where AMPHILEX will be held and will provide all participants with a map showing how to get there.

Partners and friends of our guests are also most welcome to participate.

The cost of participation is as follows:

- for the full program, US\$28 per person
- for the evening dinner only, US\$23 per person.

If you are interested to participate, please return the information identified below before August 1st, together with a check (made out to Mr. Henry Hahn) and send to:

Hans van Dooremalen
Postbus 136
5120 AC Rijen
NETHERLANDS

Please, DO NOT make the check out to Hans van Dooremalen or the Society, because we will not be able to cash it.

Information that you need to provide before August 1st in order to attend:

JULY/AUGUST 2002

1) Name 2) Street address 3) City 4) State 5) ZIP code 6) Country
7) _____ people for the full program @ \$28 = \$ _____
8) _____ people for the evening dinner @ \$23 = \$ _____
Total amount submitted = \$ _____

Applications which arrive August 1st or later will only be honored if space allows.

✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻

Book Review

**CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST 1918-1921:
A Study of Postal Activities**

by Brian Day

Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Monograph 17

Frankly, reading through this 133 page publication left me rather confused. Before trying to explain my confusion I hasten to say that there is much useful information included in this book, though not always easy to find. My confusion stems largely from the way this work is organized. The book is divided into chapters broken down into sections. So far so good. However, some of the sections made me wonder why they were included. For instance, one has to ask why Austrian field posts are included (chapter 2) when the author tells us that "... on Bohemian territory there were only military censorship offices and one sorting office (in Prague) and no Austrian field post offices." I understand that it is quite acceptable to collect Austrian Field Post as part of Czechoslovakia when there is a Czechoslovak connection. I do it myself. The author's examples are all quite rightly connected with Czech soldiers in the Austrian Army, but they do not tie the Austrian field post to the later Czechoslovak field post. My problem with the section is that it seems outside the scope of this study.

Brian Day has taken on a very large task in trying to cover all aspects of Czechoslovak field post following the "Great War". He deals with nearly all aspects I can think of. Good use has been made of the published material in English, which is quite extensive. His approach is to give a very short introduction to a particular aspect, often to present a historical chronology of the period, and then describe a series of covers. Illustrations follow. Unfortunately, this approach has several weaknesses. For one, the material described and illustrated is much stronger and more relevant in some sections than in others. Another problem with this approach is that it gives the impression of being the description of a collection rather than a true study. Finally, I would note that sometimes a subject is treated in more than one place, "Posta Militare 52" as an example, and this makes it difficult to get a full picture of the subject.

It must be noted also that some mistakes in fact appear in this publication. For instance, in the Introduction we are told that Tomáš Masaryk was the "general secretary" of the Czech National Council when in fact he was its president. The general secretary was Edvard Beneš. Again in the Introduction we are told that the Siberian Legion was "outside the scope of this study". Still, the final illustration in the publication is of one of the Siberian Legion's armored trains, "Orlík", in Simbirsk. Surely it would have been possible to illustrate the section on

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Czechoslovak armored trains in Slovakia with a photograph of one of them.

Some of the chapters or their sections are quite strong and contain much useful information. I especially like the section on courier mail. Also especially useful are some of the author's tables which present his material in a very usable form. The fonts used make the text very easy to read, and the illustrations are generally good. Where they are not entirely clear the cause is that the writing on the originals did not reproduce well in black and white. This problem does not arise in the color illustrations.

Jaroslav J. Verner

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Philatelic News and Views

From Richard Beith:

-- [in the March/April SPECIALIST] I noted the absence of any comment on the Bratislava exhibition SLOVENSKO 2002. It has taken a long time for the information to reach the UK, but this national exhibition with international participation and with FEPA approval, is scheduled for 4 to 10 July 2002 at the Slovak National Museum in Bratislava. CsPSGB [The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain] are organizing a group visit, leaving on 3 July and returning on 10 July. At the last count a group of 39 members and partners will be traveling to Vienna Airport from London or Manchester, with a pre-booked coach on to the Hotel Dukla in Bratislava. Bulletin 1 has appeared. The Secretary of the Organizing Committee can (I hope) be found at: Radlinského 9, SK 811 12, Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Tel: +421 2 5932 5106, FAX: +421 2 5244 4737.

From Savoy Horvath:

-- This year, for the first time, the CR Post commemorated the lover's holiday -- St. Valentine's Day. From the 4th to the 14th of February the post office in Milostín na Kladensku used a special postal cancel with the silhouette of two figures, a heart, and the inscription St. Valentine (Fig. 1). All those in love can greatly please their loved one by sending an appropriate greeting in a properly addressed letter all within an envelope addressed to Milostín Post Office 270 05. The Post Office will apply the special cancel and send it on to the addressee.



Fig. 1

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

SELL - SWAP - WANT

Every member is entitled to one FREE 15 word ad per calendar year. Word count does not include name and address. Send ad, clearly typed or printed, and marked Sell-Swap-Want to the editor, address on page 2.

- WANTED: Meters of CSR 1926-1948 including B&M, Sudetenland, Slovakia -- better and unusual items, frankings. Stig Asklund, Idungatan 1A, SE-113 45 Stockholm, Sweden
- WANTED: 1918 Czechoslovak Scout Post stamps and "Prijezd ..." overprints on covers, postal cards, telegrams and documents. Frederick P. Lawrence, 5016 So. Kenneth Pl., Tempe, AZ 85282-7265, USA
- SELL: Set from PRAGA'88, 12 art postal cards with each art stamp on its imaged card -- \$10. Charles Cmarada, 21 Glen Lane, Kings Park, NY 11754-1303
- WANTED: Mendelssohn souvenir sheets, Scott #804 (Germany) and #2393 (German Dem. Rep.). Will pay 1/2 Scott's. Mirko Vondra, 310 Lewis Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
- WANTED: Postal history and covers relating to the Soviet influence, "Prague Spring" and the "Velvet Revolution". Paul Barbercheck, 629 Bonita Ave., St. Louis, MO 63119



Letters to the Editor

1. Hi Lou:

I just received the May/June SPECIALIST and was very happy to see the articles on the Czech Judaica Issue of 1967. I have been gradually accumulating material and information on this issue over the past 5-6 years. It's surprising how difficult it can be to find different usages of modern stamps on cover, let alone the

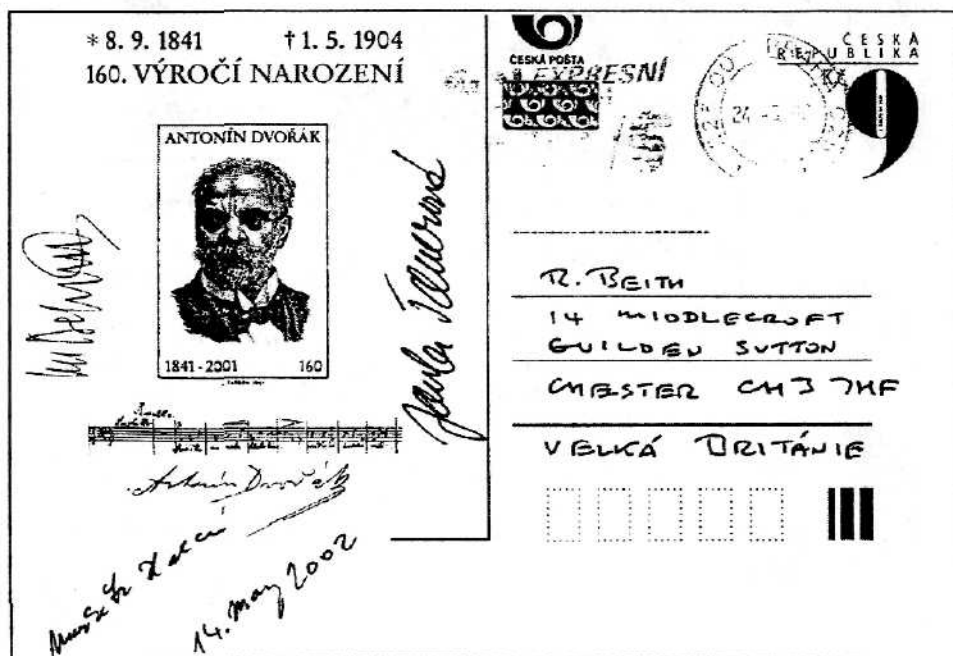


Fig. 1

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proofs or essays. I would love to hear from anyone who shares my interest in this issue

Thanks again for the fine work on the SPECIALIST, and for any help you may be able to provide me.

Rob Henak

[Ed. Note: If anyone shares Rob's interest of this Judaica issue, please contact the Editor, and I will forward your name/address.]

2. Dear Lou:

Dvořák & Philately. I was present at the opening of the exhibition on 14 May and enclose a report for your use [see elsewhere in this issue]. Also find enclosed a copy of a Dvořák card posted to myself and signed and dated 14 May for the opening (Fig. 1). The signatures are: left - Curator Dr Dehner, right - Director Dr Tauerová, below - Dr Markéta Hallová, Director of all Czech Music Museums.

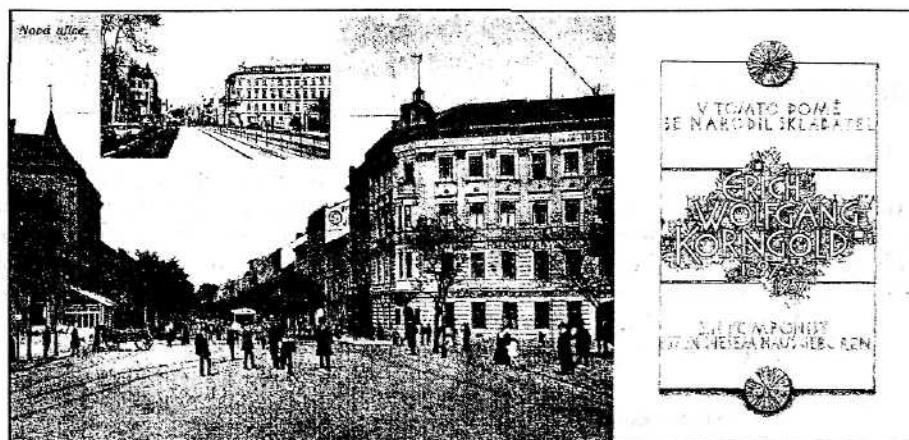


Fig. 2 - The native house of Erich Wolfgang Korngold in Brno, Kolište street nr. 1. A postcard reproduction from 1914 and a snapshot from 2002. A memorial plaque design by Milivoj Husák.



Fig. 3

A few days previously our group was in Brno during a mini-festival devoted to W A Korngold (born Brno 1897). Two souvenir postcards were produced showing the apartment block where he was born, 'then and now', with a reproduction of the new commemorative plaque in Korngold's honor (Fig. 2). Performances included the opera *Die tote Stadt*.

Visiting Hukvaldy, the birthplace of Janáček, we climbed up to the ruined castle only to find that the little café there sold the Walachian Kingdom 'stamps'! (See SPECIALIST for March/April 2002) Another set of eight values were on sale for 25 Kč, the one illustrated shows the Tower at Stramberk (Fig. 3).

All good wishes
Richard [Beith]

New Issues

CZECH REPUBLIC

by G. M. van Zanten

1. On April 23, 2002, the Ministry of Post and Communications issued a 17 Kč multicolored commemorative stamp in the Works of Art on Stamps issue containing Vlaho Bukovac's painting "Divan, 1905" (Fig. 1). It is being issued jointly by the Czech Republic and Croatia in two versions with Czech and Croatian texts and the appropriate face values. The painter Vlaho Bukovac was born in Cavtat, Croatia. Even in his childhood, he travelled widely and spoke several languages. In Paris, he befriended the future leading Czech artists V. Brožík and V. Hynais,



Fig. 1

and in 1878 he began his studies at the Academy there. He was an excellent portrait painter. He painted in an impressionist style -- portraits, nature scenes and works on historical motifs which he mainly took from Southern Slavonic history. From 1903 onward, he and his family lived in Prague, where he was a professor at the Academy of Fine Arts until his death. V. Bukovac is no stranger to the Czech public. At the beginning of 2000, the National Museum in Prague and the Modern Gallery in Zagreb held a major exhibition of works of art. Bukovac's work Divan, shown on the stamp, is a masterful example of his combination of perception and skill. He painted it in Prague, shortly before the climax of the illness which temporarily blinded him. The painting is now owned by the Art Gallery in Split. This joint Czech-Croatian stamp, with a single motif and graphic arrangement in two versions with different text, is to be issued in both countries in an arranged printing sheet with four stamps and two coupons with the artists signature and information on his life. The stamp was designed by Jan Solpera and engraved by Václav Fajt. They were produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using recess print from flat plates in black combined with multicolored offset in printing sheets of 4 stamps and 2 labels. The label shows a facsimile of Bukovac's signature and his autobiographical dates. A FDC in blue depicts a

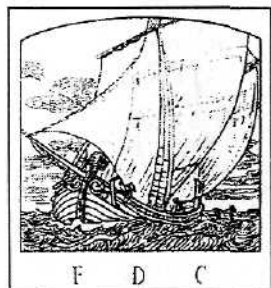


Fig. 2

drawing from the title page of the autobiography (ca. 1918)(Fig. 2).

2. On May 7, 2002, the Ministry issued a 9 Kč commemorative stamp entitled "The Circus" in the EUROPA series (Fig. 3). This multicolored stamp contains a drawing of a clown behind a lion against a background that contains a circus tent and an arena ring accompanied by the logo of



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

EUROPA. The circus is the common theme of the stamp announced for this year by PostEurop -- the Association of European Public Postal Operators. In ancient Rome, the circus (from the Latin word for circle) was a race track, originally circular and later elongated in shape, where festive games were held, especially chariot races. Today, the word usually summons up the image of a large colorful tent with seats arranged like an amphitheater around a ring where various artists and trained animals perform, as well as clowns whose comic acts sometimes make us laugh ourselves to tears. Permanent indoor circuses were founded at the end of the 18th century in London and Paris. The first Czech circuses appeared at the beginning of the 19th century. The most famous in this country include Cirkus Kludský, Cirkus Humberto, Cirkus Berousek, etc.

The drawings on the stamp, cover and cancellation, by J. Liesler, a well-known figure in Czech stamp production, perfectly evoke the atmosphere of the circus. The stamp was designed by Josef Liesler and engraved by Jarosláv Tvrdoň. It was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in yellow, brown, red and blue in printing sheets of 8 pieces. A FDC in black depicts circus scenes -- a clown, lion, snake, and two tight-rope walkers on a high-wire (Fig. 4).

3. On May 7, 2002, the Ministry issued a commemorative souvenir sheet containing two stamps on the occasion of an extensive cultural event -- the Czech Season in



Fig. 5

France (Fig. 5). The aim of this event is to present 20th century Czech culture in France, without neglecting major periods in our history such as the Czech gothic and baroque periods. The miniature sheet shows the French sculptor Auguste Rodin with the Czech painter Alfons Mucha in a carriage leaving the Old Town Hall on Staroměstském Náměstí in Prague. This ride through Prague 100 years ago was at the time of a visit from Rodin and an exhibition of his works held by the Mánes Society in the Kinský Garden. This exhibition brought great interest and response, making an unprecedented contribution to bringing the Czech and French cultural environments closer together. The exhibition of Rodin's works in Prague was of fundamental significance for a whole generation of Czech sculptors, to whom it

provided impulses to seek new art forms. The miniature sheet as well as its stamps were designed by Zdeněk Ziegler and engraved by Miloš Ondráček. They were produced by the Post Printing House, Prague, using recess print from flat plates in black combined with multicolored offset.

-- The 23 Kč stamp depicts the painting "Piano Keys - Lake 1909" by František Kupka (1871 - 1957)



Fig. 6

which is now in the National Gallery in Prague (Fig. 6). F. Kupka, a Czech artist of worldwide significance, worked on paintings, drawings, caricatures and graphic art. He studied at the Prague and Vienna Academies of Fine Arts and was active in Paris from 1895 onward. Beginning in 1911, his work made him one of the founders of the tendency in abstract art which G. Apollinaire named Orfism. His first abstract paintings were based on music. Kupka expressed the rhythm of music by means of the movement of a colored line or the dynamic gradation of areas of color. The oil painting

Piano Keys - Lake marks a watershed in his work and is on

the borders of abstraction. A FDC in grey-green depicts a woodblock from Kupka's book *Creating in Graphic Art* from 1923 (Fig. 7).



Fig. 7

-- The 31 Kč stamp depicts the sculpture "Man with Broken Nose, 1863-64" by Auguste Rodin (1840-1917) which is now in the National Gallery in Prague (Fig. 6). A. Rodin, famous for his sculptures and drawings, is regarded as the founder of modern European sculpture and a significant representative of symbolism. Initially he was influenced by romanticism, later by impressionist painting. He tried to express a person's inner emotional



Fig. 8

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life in material, and often depicted figures in tense poses and broke up their smooth surface to enliven and dramatize the form. The stamp shows the bust Man with Broken Nose, which is one of his earlier works. A FDC in brown shows a drawing from an invitation card to Rodin's exhibition in Prague in 1902 by Max Švabinský (Fig. 8).



Fig. 9

4. On May 29, 2002, the Ministry issued a 5.40 Kč multicolored commemorative stamp in the "For Children" series (Fig. 9). The designer of the stamp dedicated to children, the Czech artist and director of animated films Zdeněk Miler, graduated



Fig. 10

from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design and began working on drawings and animation in a trick film studio in Zlín. After 1945 he moved to the Prague studio Bratři v Triku. His work for young children includes several successful animated series on the mole, the puppy and the cricket, but his work for adults is no less significant. The mole shown on this year's children's stamp, holding a spade in the middle of his garden and with a smiling butterfly on his raised finger, is one of the best known and most popular characters from the *Večerníček* television cartoons and has appeared in books and films for over 40 years. The mole first appeared in the film "How the Mole Got his Trousers". The stamp was designed by Zdeněk Miler and engraved by

Bohumil Šneider. It was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using recess print in black combined with photogravure in yellow, red, blue and black in printing sheets of 30 pieces. Besides stamps in sheet arrangement, philatelic booklets of 8 stamps and 2 labels showing the mole standing on a snail shell will be issued. A FDC in black depicts the mole with a sunshade among flowers (Fig. 10).

Postal Stationery

5. On May 29, 2002, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with imprinted 5.40 Kč stamp dedicated to the centenary of Czech scouting (Fig. 11). The scouting year 2001-2002 which is identical with the school year was declared "Year of the 90th Anniversary of the Founding of the Scout Movement in Our Country". The Union of Scouts of the Czech Republic is our greatest children's and youth organization. The imprinted stamp bears a portrait of the founder of this movement, Antonin Benjamin Svojsík (1876-1938). A.B. Svojsík was a teacher and was active in the Sokol movement. In 1911 he met Lord Baden-Powell in England. After having returned home he prepared conditions for Czech scouting. The first Junák (Czech Scout) was founded in 1914, and in 1919 it was transformed into the Union of Czech Junák (Scouts of the Czechoslovak Republic). The portrait is completed by Svojsík's name, biographical data, facsimile of his signature and the historical

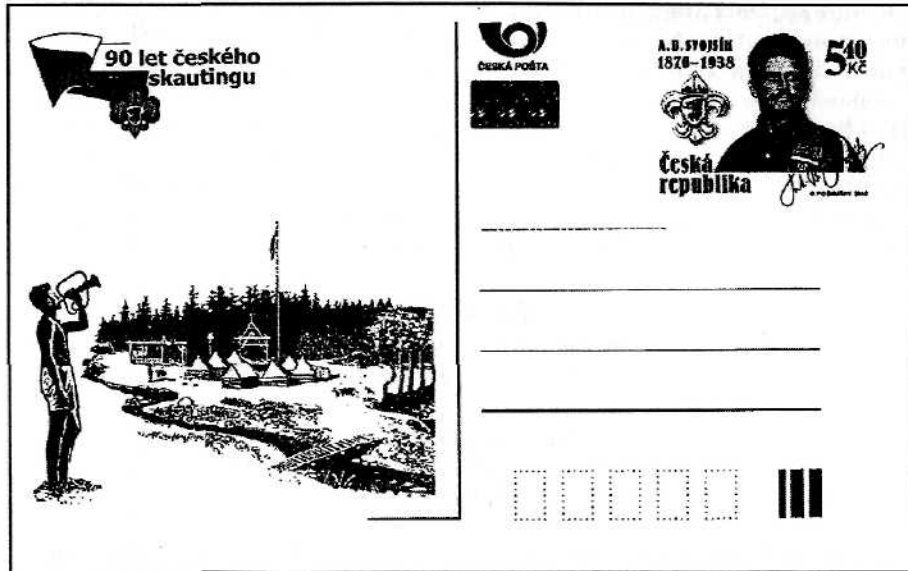


Fig. 11

emblem of the Junák organization from 1920. The cachet of the postal card shows a scout camp with a trumpeter in the foreground along with the official logo of the celebration of 90 years of Czech scouting. This logo includes the emblem of Junák in its present form. The card was designed by Oldřich Pošmurný and was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 10.40 Kč.

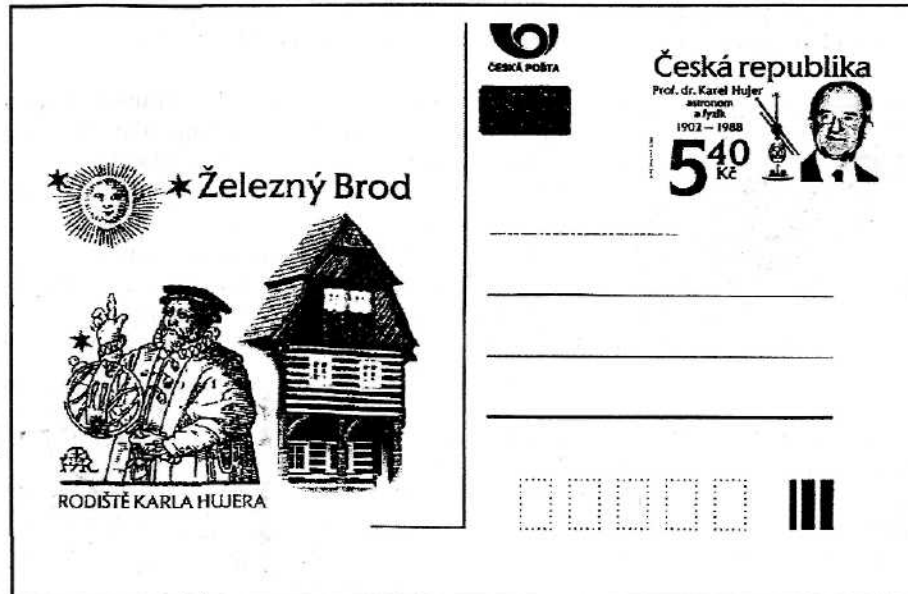


Fig. 12

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6. On May 29, 2002, the Ministry issued a postal card with imprinted 5.40 Kč stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Karel Hujer, astronomer and physicist (Fig. 12). Prof. Dr. Karel Hujer (1902-1988) was born in Železný Brod. He studied in Prague and later in France, England and the USA, where he spent a great part of his life. He was active in Chattanooga, Tennessee where he lived until his death. The cachet is a drawing of a timbered house from the end of the 18th century as well as the figure of an astronomer based on an old woodcut. The card was designed by Oldřich Pošmurný and was produced by the Post Printing House, Prague, by multicolored offset. It sells for 10.40 Kč.

SLOVAKIA

by Gerald M. van Zanten
Frank Garancovsky

2002 ISSUE PLAN FOR SLOVAK REPUBLIC STAMPS REVISIONS

- Jan 15, Personalities, Milan Rastislav Štefánik, 6 Sk issue is canceled
- Feb 15, Levoča -- definitive, 12 Sk will be issued on April 18
- Feb 15, Dog Teams, 6 Sk will be issued on February 8
- Jul 4, Alexander Rudnay, will be valued 12 Sk
- Added: Sep 10, 50th Anniversary, Founding of the Technical University - Košice, 6 Sk
- Oct 12, Chinese-Slovak Issue, Chinese Castle (Terraces from Handam) will be valued 6 Sk, and Bojnický Castle will be valued 12 Sk
- Added: Dec 6, 30th Anniversary, Flight of Apollo 17, 20 Sk
- Added: (unknown date), Supporting Entry into the EU, 6 Sk



Fig. 13

10. On August 1, 2001, the Ministry issued a 19 Sk commemorative stamp "Gitara Dobro" (good guitar)(Fig. 13). The multicolored stamp was designed by Róbert Brun and engraved by Bohumil Šneider. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC postmarked in Trnava bears an illustration by Róbert Brun.

11. On August 15, 2001, the Ministry issued a 7 Sk commemorative stamp in the "Biennial of the Illustration" of children's books (Fig. 14). The multicolored stamp was designed by Martin Činovský and engraved by Arnold Feke. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess



Fig. 14

printing combined with recess printing in sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC postmarked in Bratislava bears an illustration by Martin Činovský.

12. On September 9, 2001, the Ministry issued a 14 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "The Righteous Among the Nations" (Fig. 15). The multicolored stamp shows a girl's somber face and hands releasing leaves and a Star of David. It honors the Memorial Day of Victims of the Holocaust and Racist Violence in the Slovak Republic. It was designed by Ivan Schurmann and engraved by Rudolf Cigáňnik. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in sheets of 50 stamps. The FDC bears an illustration by Ivan Schurmann.



Fig. 15



Fig. 16

13. On September 18, 2001, the Ministry issued a commemorative souvenir sheet entitled "Alexander Dubček" and containing an 18 Sk stamp showing a portrait of Alexander Dubček, a dove with hands for wings, and a large flower (Fig. 16). Alexander Dubček was born in November 27, 1921 in Uhrovec. As early as his younger days, he was engaged in illegal anti-fascist activities and fought in the Slovak National Uprising. Beginning in 1949 he devoted his professional career to public and political work. In January 1968, under his leadership, began the liberalization process dubbed the Czech and Slovak Spring -- an effort at democratization of the society. This process gained the great approval and affection of the entire world. After the violent termination of this process in August 1968, Alexander

Dubček was persecuted for twenty years. However, he saved face through criticism of the system in his articles and speeches, and retained his faith in progress and freedom. After the fall of totalitarianism in November 1989, Alexander Dubček returned to active politics and was elected Chairman of the Federal Assembly of the Czechoslovak Federated Republic. He died on November 7, 1992 in Prague at the age of seventy, after being fatally injured in a car crash. Alexander Dubček became the symbol of democracy and humanity to millions of simple people and was, in his times, the best known Slovak in Europe and the whole world. The souvenir sheet was designed by Jozef Baláz and engraved by Martin Činovský. It was produced by the



Fig. 17

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset. The FDC bears an illustration by Jozef Baláž.

14. On October 9, 2001, the Ministry issued a 10 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "To the Memory of the Victims of the Political Trials" (Fig. 17) -- it shows a bouquet of flowers. The multicolored stamp was designed by Karol Ondreička and engraved by Václav Fajt. It was produced by the Postage Stamps Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC shows an illustration by Karol Ondreička and bears a postmark from Bratislava.

15. On October 9, 2001, the Ministry issued a 6 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "The Postal Museum in Banská Bystrica" (Fig. 18). The multicolored stamp shows a letter carrier leaping over a posthorn full of letters. It was designed by Dušan Kállay and engraved by František Horniak. It was produced by the Postage Stamps Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing on printing sheets of 50 stamps. A FDC shows an illustration by Dušan Kállay and bears a postmark from Banská Bystrica.



Fig. 18



Fig. 19

16. On October 11, 2001, the Ministry issued a 10 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "The Sturovo-Ostrihom Bridge" (Fig. 19). The multicolored stamp shows two bridges arching in from the left and right into a circle of gold stars. The stamp was designed by Dušan Grečner and engraved by Bohumil Šneider. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in printing sheets

containing 50 stamps. A FDC shows an illustration by Dušan Grečner and bears a postmark from Sturovo.

17. On October 15, 2001, the Ministry issued a set of three commemorative stamps in the Art on Stamps series, all of which were graphically arranged by Martin Činovský:

-- the 16 Sk stamp depicts the painting "Rachovo (Raftsman's Dream), 1935" by Imrich Weiner-Král (1901-1978) which currently is in the Slovak National Gallery in Bratislava (Fig. 20). Weiner-Král was a painter and graphic artist. He studied architecture at



Fig. 20



Fig. 21

the Technical High School in Brno, painting at the Academy of Arts, architecture and design in Prague, and art academes in Düsseldorf, Berlin, and Paris from 1919 to 1924, and then again from 1930 to 1932. He paved the way for surrealist tendencies through specific variations and original poetics on the borderline between dreams and reality. By means of figurative motif, mythical countryside, and rich metaphoric language and symbols, he created a mysterious poetic world of visions, as demonstrated in the picture on this stamp. From 1939 to 1950, he lived in France where he joined the anti-fascist movement and accepted the surname Král. After his return to Czechoslovakia, he lived in Prague and Považská Bystrica and finally in Bratislava. Apart

from painting he devoted himself to drawing, graphic art, illustrations, and writing. This multicolored stamp was engraved by Rudolf Cigánik and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using five-colored recess printing from flat plates on printing sheetlets containing 4 stamps. A FDC shows a graphic illustration (a xylograph) by Weinter-Král and bears a postmark from Bratislava.



Fig. 22

-- the 18 Sk stamp (Fig. 21) depicts a lithograph "Light of the Soul, 1994" by Albin Brunovský (1935-1997)(Fig. 22). Brunovský was a national artist and a Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava where he ran the department of book design from 1967 to 1990. He studied under Professor Vincent Hložník at the Academy of Fine Arts (1956-1961). From the beginning of his artistic work he captivated many people with his drawing mastery and extraordinary rich imagination, shown in his lithographs and etchings. We can find similar fanciful creativity in his illustrations found in more than 100 books. Brunovský went through a long artistic development, from subtle Mannerism, through vital sensualism, morally-critical humanism, to the final period of highly spiritual creationism. The graphics on this stamp were reproduced from this final period using the recess engraving process. Apart from graphic art and illustrations, he devoted much to producing ex-libris [ownership bookplates], graphic lay-outs of postage stamps and bank notes, as well as paintings on wood. He had over one hundred personal exhibitions in Europe, USA and Japan. He has been awarded more than 20 prestigious international and domestic prizes. This multicolored stamp was engraved by Martin Činovský and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using tricolored recess printing from flat plates on printing sheetlets containing 4 stamps. A FDC shows an etching by Brunovský entitled "Lady with Hat II (Mirror), 1981" and bears a

postmark from Bratislava.

-- the 20 Sk stamp depicts a portion of an icon from the church in Sarišské Rovné in Eastern Slovakia and is entitled "St. Michael the Archangel with a Group of Saints, 16th Cent. (Part)" which currently is in the Sarišské Museum at Bardejov (Fig. 23). St. Michael the Archangel and St. Paul the Apostle -- is a portion of a panel painting which is a part from the right side of the sequence Deésis. It is tempera on wood and measures 107.3 x 159.2 x 2.5 cm. The pictured archangel and apostle are part of the Deésis scene consisting of five painted panels of different sizes and originating from the wooden St. Demeter's Church in Rovné (the Svidník district) which no longer exists. Since 1906 it has been in the Sarišské Museum in Bardejov. Deésis originated in the first half of the 16th century. It is the oldest memorial of this iconographic type in Slovakia. It pictures Christ sitting on the throne



Fig. 23



Fig. 24

between the Mother of God and St. John the Baptist, who are turning to him with appealing gestures. The central "theme" is completed on the sides by archangels, apostles, saint's fathers, and martyrs. The remarkable beauty of this memorial was discovered by Polish restorer Wojciech Kurpiak in 1968. The panels of Deésis from Rovné were exhibited in Munich (1969-1978), at the World Exhibition in Osaka (1970)(Fig. 24, Sc. 1677/Pof. 1819), in Brussels (1973), in Prague (1984, 1988), in Bratislava and Košice. Presently, the entire Deésis from Rovné is exhibited at the first specialized exposition of icons in Slovakia in the Sarišské Museum at Bardejov. This multicolored stamp was engraved by František Horniák and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using five-colored recess printing from flat plates on printing sheetlets containing 4 stamps. A FDC depicts a detail from an icon at Ulicské Krivé, St. Michael the Archangel, from the 16th century, showing three young men in a blazing oven and bearing a postmark from Bardejov.

18. On October 15, 2001, the Ministry issued a 5.50 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "Christmas 2001" (Fig. 25). This multicolored stamp depicts Bratislava's rococo-era Nativity Scene from the Nunnery of Ursulines.



Fig. 25

The stamp was designed by Martin Činovský and engraved by Arnold Fekete. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing on printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC depicts an illustration of the angel from the top of the Nativity Scene and bears a postmark from Bratislava.

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