



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. 65

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

No. 5, Whole No. 581

1939-1999 SPECIALIST INDEX

by Ludvik Svoboda, Editor

As was announced by our new president, Tom Cossaboom, in his President's Corner column of the Jul/Aug issue, the Board decided that each member would receive a free personal copy of the 1939-1999 Index of the SPECIALIST. What I need to know now is what variety you would like. We will only send a copy to a member IF they respond to this request by sending in the enclosed form!

Before you make up your mind, you need to be aware that we have already placed the Index on our Web Site, www.czechoslovakphilately.com. So for those of you who have a computer and access to the Internet, you already have access to the Index in electronic format (practically the same as what you would get if you asked for the CD Rom format -- without having to worry about any possible formatting incompatibilities).

Send in the enclosed form showing whether you want (1) a paper copy (size of the SPECIALIST), (2) a copy on a CD Rom, (3) don't need one because you can use the one on our Web Site, or (4) want it in more than one format (a small charge is involved). I must have your response by November 1!

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NEW LIBRARIAN

As of October 1, 2003, our new librarian will be Mark Wilson, 316 Devland Drive, Winchester, VA 22603, who is taking over from our long-time librarian, Richard Palaschak. Mark has set up a special new e-mail address for library business:

scplibrary@knihtisk.com

***** NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS *****

The Editor has a new e-mail address:
NEW address – Lousvoboda@comcast.net

Farewells

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of our member, Alois Horacek (member #1636), of Dumont, NJ. We extend our sincerest sympathies to the entire Horacek family.

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No. 5 Whole No. 581

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

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**“OK, I AGREE TO EXHIBIT.
HOW DO I PREPARE MY COLLECTION?”**

by Kimber Wald

Most collectors do not exhibit their stamps for various reasons. They think it is too hard. They believe they will not get a top award and that will be embarrassing. Too many specialty items are missing from their collection. They think they are not gifted writers. Still, they enjoy their specialties and showing them to friends. Why not just mount up in frames at an exhibition the pages they show to friends? In that way they will share their interests with others who will enjoy them and, perhaps, gain new friends. After all, the essence of philately is gathering your stamps and covers, enjoying the results, and sharing them with others.

To motivate collectors to become exhibitors I will take us on a tour of a collection I have been forming over the past few years and arranging with the thought of exhibiting it eventually when sufficient missing material has been obtained. It is “Canada: The 1927 Historical and Confederation Anniversary Issues.” I am no authority on the subject of exhibiting but I have exhibited occasionally since 1961, winning awards at both ends of the spectrum, and learning from lots of mistakes made down through the decades.

Be Brief

As you prepare your exhibit, keep something very important in mind: write up everything succinctly and with as few words as possible. No one is going to spend a lot of time standing in front of any exhibit, no matter how interesting, to essentially read a “book.” You have never seen this happen. You never will.

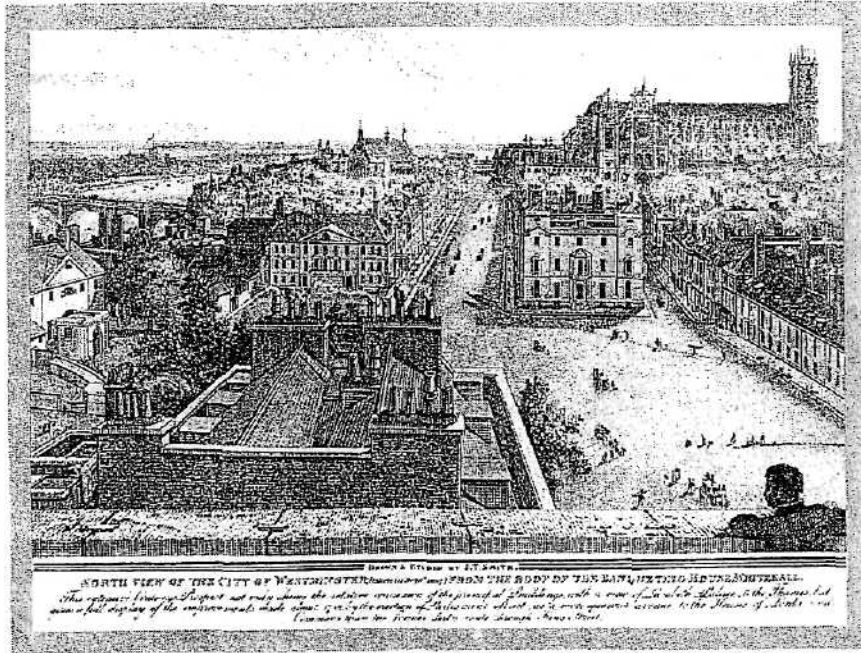
Title Page

Years ago title pages did not provide much guidance and often had non-philatelic material on them. As an example, here is a title page for a collection I formed and exhibited in the late 1970’s early 1980’s of London Local Post handstamps (Fig. 1). The reproduction, which was placed on the title page not to enhance philatelic knowledge but provide a contemporary attractive addition, is a drawing by J. T. Smith showing a “North view of the City of Westminster (taken in September 1807) from the roof of the Banqueting House, Whitehall.” Artistically, the page looks nice, but it provides little relevant philatelic information other than a short listing of major handstamps on display. This exhibit and ones like it won major awards 25 years ago.

Let’s move on to today and contemporary standards. To get your exhibit off to a good start you need to tell the viewer what you are doing. Pick a title that tells the public what it is your are showing. “Canada: The 1927 Historical and Confederation Anniversary Issues” is direct and allows no confusion. On the title page you need to explain to the viewers what your exhibit involves. On my title page (Fig. 2) I briefly inform the viewer two sets of stamps were issued to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Confederation and honor five prominent men in Canada’s history. Not many collectors will know the three Historical stamps were prepared

London Local Post

the Government Handstamps



A presentation of the handstamps by group, beginning with the government Dockwra - Type, used to their discontinuance in 1858. The breakdown:

- Dockwra - Types
- Reorganized Penny Post
- Twopenny Post Unpaid
- Transfer Marks
- Penny / Twopenny Post Paid
- Sorting Offices
- Receiving Houses

Fig. 1

CANADA: THE 1927 HISTORICAL AND CONFEDERATION ANNIVERSARY ISSUES

Exhibit Introduction

In 1927 Canada marked the 60th anniversary of Confederation with a set of six stamps. A three value Historical Issue had been prepared to be released on July 1, 1926, but it was withheld for the 60th anniversary. Stamps were issued June 29, 1927, though they were to be released July 1.

Exhibit Objective

The objective of this exhibit is to present the 1927 Historical Issue and Confederation Anniversary Issue. Proofs, mint, used, varieties, marginal inscriptions, and various covers are shown. Rate schedules, domestic, to the British Empire, United States, and to other foreign countries, are presented.

Personal & Political Prelude

On Dominion Day, July 1, 1926 Postmaster Charles Murphy sent to friends and associates this printed envelope marking the start of the 60th anniversary of Confederation and the discontinuance of the 1-cent War Tax.

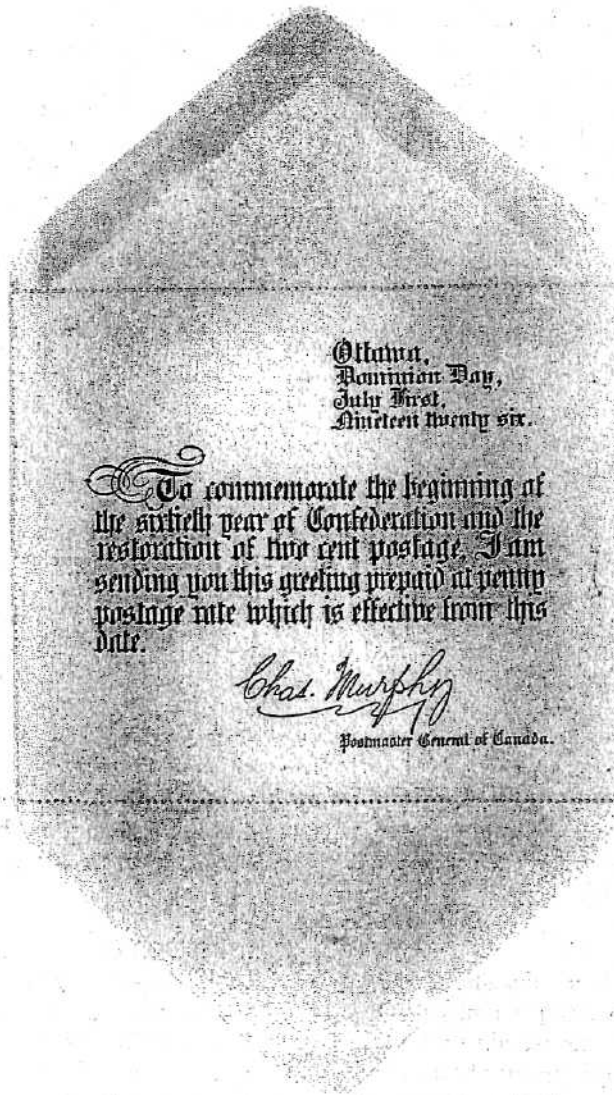


Fig. 2

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

to mark the start of the 60th Confederation anniversary year but not released until twelve months later at the end of it.

Next, tell the viewer your goal with the exhibit. Under "Exhibit Objective" I explain I am showing everything possible for this issue: mint and used examples, proofs, marginal inscriptions, varieties, cancels, and covers illustrating the rates that were in force domestically and to other countries. It is up to the judges to determine if I have met this exhibit objective.

A striking item will spark interest in your display. It is often hard to find *something really unusual, which fits into the exhibit as a title page teaser*. In 1926 Postmaster Charles Murphy sent to his friends and associates an attractive specially engraved message informing them July 1, 1926, initiated the 60th year of Confederation and also the penny war tax had been abolished. His announcement of the start of the Confederation anniversary fits in very nicely with the beginning of my historically related exhibit.

Viewers will enjoy your display more if they understand the layout. Therefore, it is helpful to describe the structure and I have done this under "Exhibit Presentation" (Fig. 3). Some folks may be primarily interested in Canadian rates to foreign countries. They do not wish to wade through pages of imprint blocks looking for these covers. Therefore, my second introductory page lets them know these will be found in frames 5-7.

Guidelines for exhibiting today recommend key items of a collection be marked accordingly. This can be done in several ways. Some collectors place a special frame around key items in their exhibits. Others use a uniform marker, such as a star, placed next to the significant material. Still others just list the key items in the collection on the title page with a reference location so viewers may find them.

Judges, while knowledgeable people, do not know everything. They need to do research on the exhibits they will be judging. Exhibitions require exhibitors to submit copies of their title pages so they may be forwarded to the judges and aid them in learning about what they will be examining. You know the key references from your own research. Tell the judges by providing a bibliography. It can only help you. To prepare for the show you know they will check out what you recommend. You will be shaping the research.

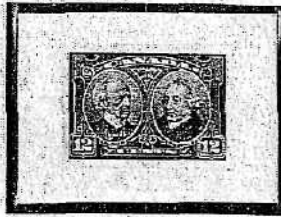
Always remember an attractive presentation can help. The overall appearance can aid or hurt you. This is one reason why the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) was founded 17 years ago in 1986 and still is alive and well.

The First Pages

If you are showing a combination postage stamp and postal history collection you need to present your material in the order of development. While the following is not necessarily true in all cases, it is something of a pattern for older stamps. When stamps are being prepared designs are created and often essays are made. An essay is a stamp sample under consideration. Next proofs are prepared, often both in die form and in sheets. After all of this is finished, decisions are made and there are the stamps!

Exhibit Presentation (By Frame)

- Overview of the two issues –1-4.
- Domestic postage rates – 5.
- Postage rates to the British Empire –5-6.
- Postage rates to the United States –6.
- Rates to other foreign countries –6-7.
- Other mail activity, types of cancels –7.



Historical Issue 12 cent value small die proof.
No die number. 37 x 26.5 mm. india. 57 x 41 mm. card.

Exhibit Highlights (By Frame and Page)

- Small die proof of Historical Issue 12 cent stamp – 1:2.
- Small die essey of Historical Issue rejected 10 cent stamp – 1:3.
- Small die proofs of Historical Issue stamps – 1:3.
- Large die proofs of Historical Issue stamps – 1:4/6.
- Imperforate pairs of the Historical Issue stamps – 1:8.
- Horizontally and vertically imperforate pairs of the Historical Issue – 1:9/10.
- Large die proofs of Confederation stamps – 2:1/5.
- Imperforate pairs of the Confederation stamps – 2:7.
- Horizontally imperforate pairs of the Confederation stamps –2:8.
- Vertically Imperforate pairs of the Confederation stamps – 2:9.
- Printer's index card file document Confederation Special Delivery – 4:3.
- Unhardened die proof of the Confederation Special Delivery stamp – 4:4.
- Large die proof of Confederation Special Delivery stamp – 4:5.
- Imperforate and part perforate pairs, Confederation Special Delivery – 4:6.

References

- Couts, Cecil C., *Slogan Postmarks of Canada*. Privately printed. Abbotsford, BC, 1996.
- Davis, G. H., *Canada Special Delivery*. Unitrade Press, Toronto, ON, 1991.
- Jarrett, Fred, *Stamps of British North America*. Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA, 1975.
- Jephcott, C.M., and Henry Gates, *Imperforates and Part Perforates of Canada, 1859-1942*. *BNA Topics*, November-December 1971.
- Smith, Robert C., and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, *Canada Domestic and International Postal Rates and Fees, 1870-1999*. Press for Philately, Snow Camp, NC, 2000.
- *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps, 2003 Edition*. Unitrade Press, Toronto, ON, 2003.

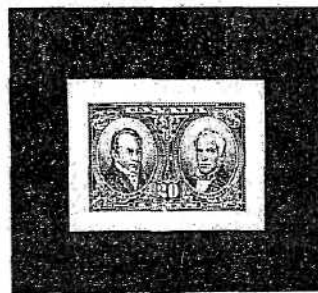
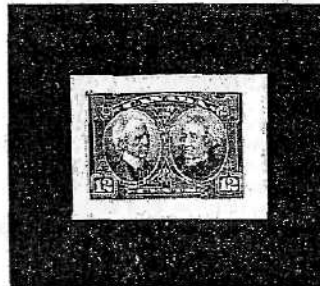
Fig. 3

1927 HISTORICAL ISSUE

Believed to have come from a large ledger book upon which the printer placed examples of its work.



Small die essay of Historical issue disapproved 10 cent value.
Inscribed, "order cancelled." 36 x 24.5 mm. India paper.



Small die proofs printed on India paper, mounted on white wove paper on white card on black cards.
Die proof sizes: 5 cent: 20 x 23 mm.; 12 cent: 35.5 x 24 mm.; 20 cent: 36 x 24 mm.

Fig. 4

1927 HISTORICAL ISSUE
5 CENT THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE



Large Die Proof. Die Number X-G-147 above design.
Die sunk on 150 x 139 mm. card. Die sinkage is 54 x 58 mm. on India.

Fig. 5

If this material is available for what you are going to exhibit, it should be there in the early frames as a prelude to the final stamps. The third page of my exhibit presents an unadopted die essay of a 10-cent design and die proofs of the three Historical denominations (Fig. 4). Larger die proofs are also available for this issue and shown next (Fig. 5). It would make no difference if you present the large die proofs before the small ones. Mine are arranged small before large because of the inclusion of the similar looking die essay.

Technically, the material of my pages 2 and 3 is out of sequence. The die essay on page 3 should precede the small die proof on page 2 and I could have arranged it that way. However, from an artistic standpoint, the larger die essay would have caused severe crowding if included on page 2 and arranging page 3 as it appears results in an attractive balance. Occasionally, you have to weigh what the judges may think about a minor point and make up your mind what you like best. If a judge subjectively prefers a layout other than what I used, so be it. The point is minor and I am thinking more about what I like and how the average show attendee will react to the material.

The Stamps Themselves

Next, the Historical stamps themselves appear. I show both mint and used (Fig. 6, 7). The three blocks are included because of the nice SON cancels. I placed the two used singles on the sheet for balance as well as their nice appearances. Someone might object that I should have included a used single of the 5-cent value, but that would have caused the page to become crowded and perhaps out of balance. Information as to the printers and related details appears at the bottom of the page. It is there to provide sheet layout balance with the title at the top and allow me to organize the stamps themselves in any manner found to be appealing. You will notice this is a key layout feature I have used throughout the exhibit. This technical information could also have been placed on the title pages since it applies to all stamps in both issues. It is not there due to the crowded nature of those pages.

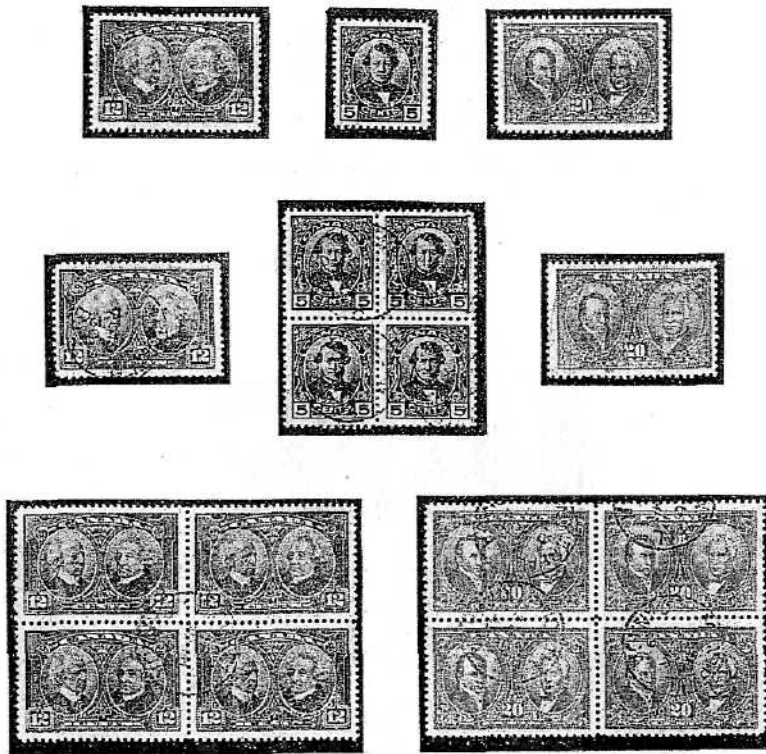
As a collector/exhibitor works through a specialized presentation of the adhesives she/he arrives at the doorstep of marginal markings. For this collection I am obtaining examples of all marginal inscriptions available. As the page of 5-cent Thomas D'Arcy McGee imprints shows, they are found at the top of all post office counter sheets (Fig. 8). These can be distinguished as to whether they were in upper left or upper right margins of guillotined printing sheets by certain measurements. You need to explain how that is done and also define anything, such as a transferor's number, which may not be commonly known to collectors. The page of 12-cent Laurier & Macdonald imprints confirms why plate number measurements are needed for examples without either left or right vertical margins attached (Fig. 9).

Imperforate, vertically imperforate, and horizontally imperforate copies are known of each stamp. Examples of each are required for a comprehensive presentation.

Here Come the Covers

I organize by groups the postal rates in effect for each segment of the collection I have formed: domestic, British Empire, to the United States, other foreign, and

1927 HISTORICAL ISSUE



This set was to be issued in 1926 but was held back and released the same day as the Confederation Anniversary issue, June 29, 1927. Printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ltd., Ottawa. The designs were engraved by the American Bank Note Company and provided to CBNC. Perforated 12.

Fig. 6

1927 HISTORICAL ISSUE

Vertically imperforate pairs. 250 pairs reported.
Horizontally imperforate pairs. 250 pairs reported.



References to numbers recorded refer to totals cited in the two part article, *Imperforates and Part Perforates of Canada, 1859-1942* by C.M. Jephcott and Henry Gates found in *BNA Topics*, November-December 1971.

Fig. 7

5 CENT THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE

Marginal Imprint,
Transferor Number, Plate Number, and Printing Order Number



Plate "A-1" upper left. "A-1" measures 3.5 mm.



Plate "A-1" upper right. "A-1" measures 4.0 mm.

Notes:

- > **Plate number measurements.** Without left or right margins, such as the blocks above, the only way to determine the position of an imprint item is the space within the plate number. Fortunately, many but not all of these have been recorded from studies of examples with full sheet margins.
- > **Transferor's number.** This is a reference ("P.L.B.C." above) to the person who laid down the plate from the transfer roller. These appear only on the Historical issue and not the Confederation Anniversary issue.

Fig. 8

12 CENT LAURIER & MACDONALD

Marginal Imprint,
Transferor Number, Plate Number, and Printing Order Number



Plate "A-2" upper left. "A-2" measures 5.0 mm.



Plate "A-2" upper right. "A-2" measures 4.5 mm.

Fig. 9

CANADIAN DOMESTIC POSTAGE RATES

	At Issue Date	Aug. 24, 1928	July 1, 1931	Oct. 23, 1931
Surface letter - first ounce	.02		.03	
Surface letter - each addl. oz.	.02			
Drop letter - each addl. oz.	.01			
Airmail - first oz.		.05	.06	
Airmail - each addl. oz.		.10		.05
Post card	.02			
Printed matter - each 4 oz.	.01			
Registration fee to \$25.	.10			
Registration fee \$25 to \$50	.20			
Registration fee \$50 to \$75	.30			
Registration fee \$75 to \$100	.40			
Return receipt	.10			
Return receipt after mailing	.20			
Special delivery fee	.20			

POSTAL RATES
DOMESTIC

Surface Letter
(1 oz.): 2 Cents

Effective: July 1, 1928, to June 30, 1931.



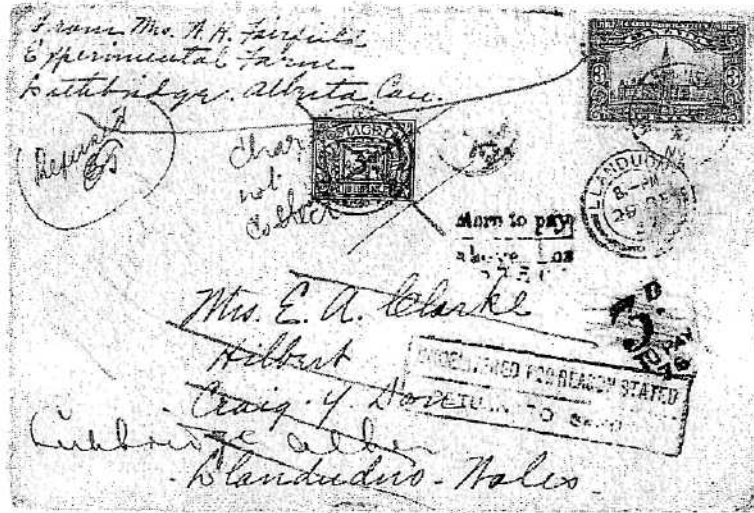
September 16, 1927, Milton, Ontario to Hamilton, Ontario. Mourning cover.

Fig. 10

RETURNED LETTER - FOREIGN

Postage underpaid. Correct rate was 6 cents for a two-ounce letter.
3d. postage due stamp applied in Llandudno, Wales on December 24, 1927.

Handstamped and inscribed "More to pay," "3d. to pay," "Charge not collected,"
"Refused" and "Undelivered for reason stated/return to sender."



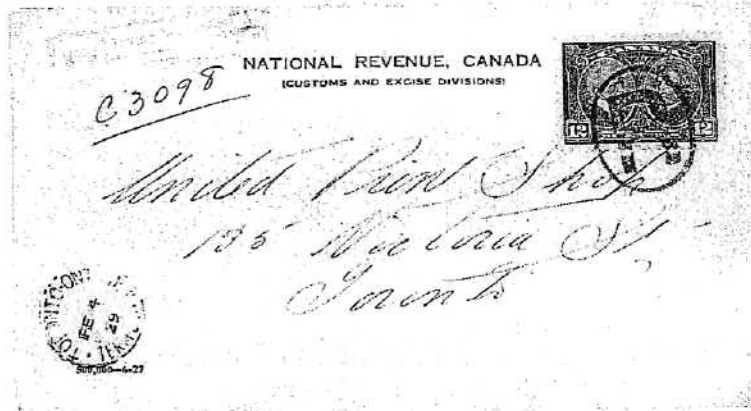
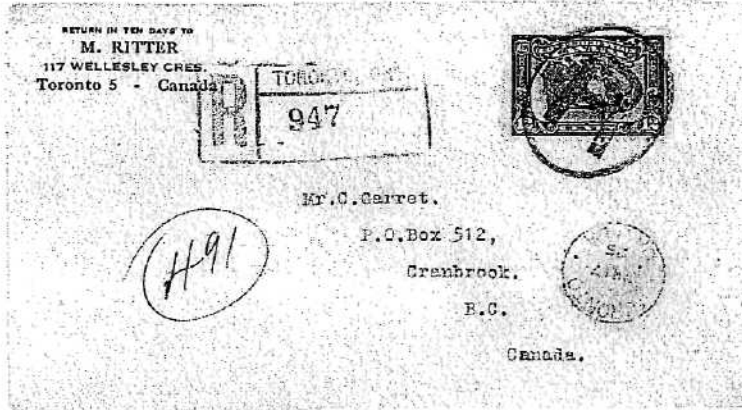
December 12, 1927, Lathbridge, Alberta to Llandudno, Wales.
Letter received in Llandudno December 24, rejected, and returned December 29, 1927.

Fig. 11

HAND
CANCELS

Registration "R"

Registration "R" handstamps were occasionally used to cancel adhesives.
Both covers combined with 2 cent surface rate (1 oz.). Total: 12 cents.



Above: January 17, 1929, Toronto to Cranbrook, British Columbia. Backstamped in Cranbrook January 22.
Erroneous Toronto date stamp says "1928."

Below: February 4, 1929, Toronto local letter. Backstamped same date.

Fig. 12

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preferred foreign countries. For my own enjoyment and reference I present an each introductory rate page listing the various rates in effect during the four years after the stamps were issued (Fig. 10). This means I have to show them all or there will be holes in the exhibit. I am still searching!

Usual "happenings" to covers are interesting. One of three returned covers in my collection had gone to Llandudno, Wales in 1927 (Fig. 11). It shows lots of interesting inscriptions and handstamps, including "More to pay," "3d. to pay," "Charge not collected," "Refused," and an "Undelivered for reason stated/return to sender." Notice how the collection characteristic of page balance of print at the top and the bottom allows me to place the cover centered on the sheet. I could have done so with the printing at the lower edge of it, but that would have left a lot of blank space at the bottom of the page.

The final segment of covers presents the range of cancels found on Historical and Confederation stamps (Fig. 12). A wide range is available and needs to be assembled. As an illustration, registration handstamps ("R" in an oval) were often used to cancel stamps on registered letters and two different examples are shown.

A Final Nudge

If you are uncertain how to organize your material, go to a couple of exhibitions before entering it, study the displays, and take notes as to how others organize their exhibits. Should you find it degrading to get a lower level award, show the exhibit non-competitively until you believe it is ready for competition. You can ask the judges to privately critique it for you. Remember, most viewers are not judging your exhibit against a series of complex international standards. They are just looking to see what you collect and possibly considering it as an area of specialty for themselves.

[Ed. Note: The SPECIALIST is pleased to print the preceding article which was previously already submitted for publication in an upcoming issue of The Canadian Philatelist. It is printed here with the permission of the editor, Tony Shaman, and the author, who is a member of our Society.]



CZECH AND SLOVAK EXILES OF THE 20TH CENTURY

by Lumir Brendl

An extraordinarily interesting exhibition took place in Brno from January 18 to March 31 this year. It was organized by Jan Kratochvil and the Society 2001 for Culture and Dialogue, and called, *Czech and Slovak Exiles of the 20th Century*. It was shown in the Moravian Land Museum. The exhibition was under the protection of the Presidents of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Václav Havel and Rudolf Schuster. A number of ministers and cultural personages attended the opening.

Certainly of most interest to philatelists was the section entitled "Exile Mail of the 20th Century" which was located in two halls of the Bishop's palace. The introduction and explanation of the section's goal was presented by the curator of the postal history section, P. Tošněrová, and of the philatelic section, Lumír Brendl.

The first hall contained the exhibition from the Postal Museum in Prague and presented contemporary documents and covers of the Czechoslovak Legions in Siberia, France and Italy; documents signed by Tomáš G. Masaryk and Eduard Beneš as well as other political leaders during the first (1914-1921) and second exile (1939-1945); mail delivered by Scouts during November and again in December of 1918; and many other interesting items. Three-dimensional items were also shown.

The second hall contained eight frames and two cases containing the exhibits of the Society of Czech Philatelists. Comprised of two exhibits, the first of which presented a thematic treatment of the road to Czechoslovak independence in 1918 and its restoration in 1945 (material from the Brendl collection). The second exhibit was entitled "Correspondence from Czechoslovak Prisons after 1948", material collected by the Brno philatelist B. Zicha and shown here publicly for the first time. In addition to other historical documents of the tragic period of the 1950s, the exhibit contains a letter addressed to General Heliodor Pík in Pankrác Prison as well as one to his son, also imprisoned, Captain Milan Pík. This exhibit is essentially documentation of the third, though domestic, exile testifying to the fate of political prisoners and their families in Czechoslovakia during the '50s.

In the cases, visitors could examine Jaroslav Verner's new book on the *Mail of the Czechoslovak Legions in France* and the handbook of the British author Richard Beithe about the mail of the Czechoslovak soldiers in Great Britain during the second world war.

The leaflets of Radio Liberty from 1954-56 (Fig. 1) aroused considerable interest. These are not philatelic material because, unlike the uncensored letters from Communist held prisoners, they were not delivered by the mails. They were transported by small balloons from the American zone of Germany and often could be found in the forests of the Plzeň region. One of them is a "Message to the Czechs and Slovaks" and would certainly be an outstanding historical document in an open class exhibit where non-philatelic material is permitted.


Among the exhibited covers is a card from a member of the Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain, Regimental Sergeant Major Josef Přichystal. His fate was similar to thousands of other soldiers after February 1948. He returned to Czechoslovakia in 1945 with the rank of Staff Captain. In 1948, because he was a member of the Czechoslovak army in the West, he was arrested and imprisoned, deprived of his military rank and the right

POSELSTVÍ ČECHŮM A SLOVÁKŮM

**VANE NOVÝ VĚTR!
A NOVÁ NADEJE SVĚTA!**

Vyznavaři svobody v číně našli k vám novou cestu.
Vědí, že také vy toužíte po svobodě.
Miliony mužů a žen se spojili, aby vám tlumočili
slova přátelství na svobodných vinách vzdáleného moře,
jež dosud a navzdor všemu spojuje západ s východem.
Tyrani zotročili vaši hrdou vlasť!
Pokoušejí se všemi způsoby o to, aby vás izolovali od
příatelů ve svobodném světě.
Ale jejich snaha je zmarlá.
Jste s vámi denně ve styku na roztřesených vinách.
A teď jsme našli novou cestu, po které se k vám
dostáváme. Vždyť není dost hluboké klobky, jež by mohla
trvale uvázat pravdu, a není dost vysokých baň, přes něž
by k vám neproniklo poselství svobody.
Barbaři a tyrani nemohou ovládat vzdálené moře a
nemohou zotročit vaše srdce.
Svoboda opět vzplátní!

Kritické Těleso Pro Svobodu (16 Miliónů
Občanů Spojených Států Severoamerických),
Meziamerická Oblastní Organizace Dřívější
(19 Jihoamerických Států)
Mezinárodní Federace Svobodných Novinářů
Mezinárodní Federace Vědeckých Vysloužilců
(Základní země: Belgie, Francie, Holandsko, Itálie)
Federace Ženských Klubů
(11 miliónů členů ve 32 zemích)
Odborářský a Dělnický Kongres Kanaďský, Americká
Federace Pilotů
Kongres Kanaďských Dělnických Organizací, Kongres
Průmyslových Organizací



Zem Svobody

Fig. 1



Fig. 2

to wear his decorations. After release from prison he was permitted to work only as an unskilled laborer.

Czechoslovak censors also took aim at mail from abroad franked with stamps which had "undesired" subjects. And so it was that censors at post office Praha 120 searched for the "non-admissible" American stamps from the Champions of Liberty series honoring our first president, T. G. Masaryk, the founder of our state. For the

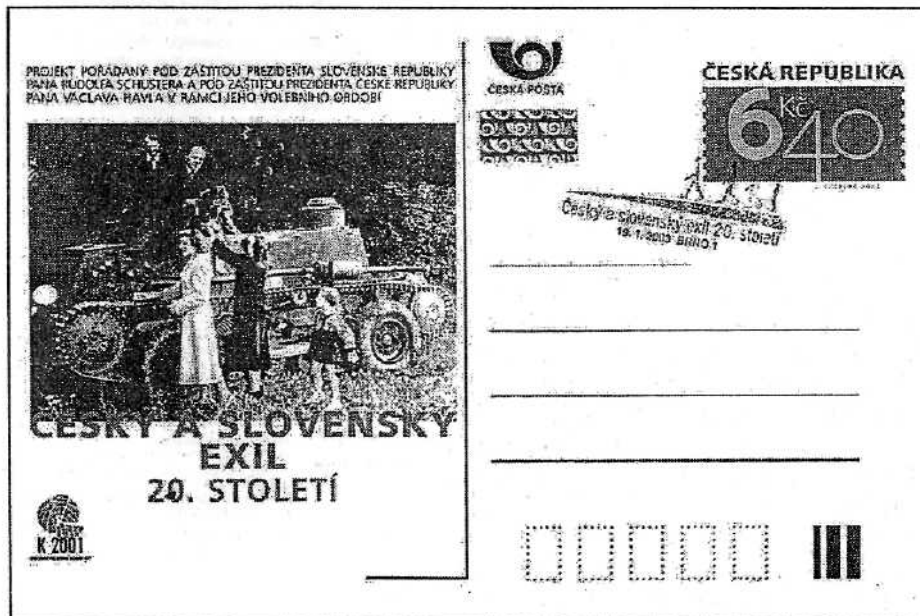


Fig. 3

censors of the day it was a given that the addressee would not be informed that mail to him had been stopped and returned to the sender, often after many weeks and with the marking, sometimes hand written, "Retour" (return) and the cancel of Praha 120 on the reverse side. This too was the reality of life in Czechoslovakia during the years 1948-1989 (Fig. 2).

Interesting covers from concentration camps in Nazi Germany as well as in occupied countries were exhibited by Valentin Schiebl from Brno.

The exhibition was not extensive in its size, but rich in its content. Visitors, especially young viewers, can learn much of our recent past from the fascinating documents exhibited. Finally, it should be noted that a postcard with a special cachet "Český a Slovenský Exil 20. Století" (Fig. 3) was issued in honor of this exhibition and was canceled in black (and occasionally in red), with a Brno 1 cancel with the same text. The exhibition will be shown next in Bratislava.



KNIHTISK

Czechoslovak Philatelic Publications in English

by Mark Wilson

Most wives will tell you that finding a birthday gift that a husband will really treasure is one of life's more difficult quests. After years of giving shirts, socks, and what have you, my wife hit upon an ideal and most remarkable gift. In October of 2002, the Travel Section of *The Washington Post* advertised a special Thanksgiving Weekend trip to Prague that combined the cost of the round trip airline fare with a three-day stay in a nice hotel for an amazingly low price. Needless to say, her husband was more than surprised and absolutely delighted!

Prague offers many delights to its visitors, not the least of which is an opportunity to enrich one's philatelic library with Czech material. During the Thanksgiving Weekend trip, a Saturday meeting was arranged with the Secretary of The Society for Typographic Stamp Collectors, Mr. J. Latal. His club has spent years researching, writing, publishing and distributing treatises on the Hradčany, The Dove, and The Chainbreaker, all issues of great interest to the collector of early Czechoslovakia. More than thirty of these philatelic booklets elected to climb into a small briefcase and fly back to the United States.

The purchase of so many books in a language one has neither studied nor speaks must appear quite odd to an outsider. But for those of us infected with a passion for the early Czechoslovakian issues, our hunger for new information quite overwhelms our common sense.

The task of translating so many booklets at first seemed daunting, but with the aid of a good Czech-English dictionary, and the exchange of many emails with generous and helpful bilingual correspondents, the slow extraction of the information hidden in these booklets began. And, since the booklets often repeated the same descriptive words and phrases, their translation progressed at greater and greater speeds.

When friends -- John Sevenhuijsen and Nils Agrell, both avid Hradčany collectors and plating enthusiasts -- learned via the Internet of this activity and of the progress being made, they suggested that the translations be formalized and

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made available to other collectors interested in Czechoslovakian typographic stamps. With Mr. Latal conducting the negotiations, the Czech Typographic Stamp Collectors Society eventually granted permission for the publication of their booklets in English. Thus began a small journey into the world of publishing philatelic literature.

Every publishing house, even the smallest, requires an imprint, but selecting one forever characterizes the publisher, so care must be taken to find the right imprint. Since the Czech word **Knihtisk** not only signifies the typographic stamps described in the translated booklets, but also means "letterpress" -- the world's original one-man printing press -- its choice seemed doubly appropriate as an emblem for this tiny publishing venture.

The work began by writing up the translations on a word processor, to which were added illustrations scanned from the original Czech booklets. Initially, the plan was to simply send the word processing files to interested parties, but it was soon discovered that not everyone could read the word processor files. Luckily, the Adobe Acrobat Reader format is available on every computer, so once the word processing files were transformed into Adobe Acrobat PDF files, they could be read by anyone with a computer.

Not everyone wants to read philatelic literature on a computer, however, and requests began to come in for paper copies of the studies. The purchase of a new printer capable of printing both sides of a sheet of paper without intervention enabled distribution of the translations in paper format. Now that a means for producing multiple copies was at hand, a need arose to find somewhere to market the translations.

As an experiment, copies of the booklets were offered on eBay, and they sold remarkable well. After a bit of a struggle, a pricing scheme emerged that at least prevented wholesale bankruptcy, even if it did not cover all costs. Because paying for eBay listings forced higher prices on the Knihtisk publications than perhaps the market could bear, a need also arose to find a better advertising and distribution venue for the translations. For a small monthly fee, the local cable television company hosts Internet Web sites. Knihtisk, by subscribing to that service and obtaining its own domain name, www.knihtisk.com, immediately became an internationally accessible presence on the World Wide Web.

At first, the Web site contained only descriptions of the publications. Within a very short time it became clear that in addition to selling the publications, the Knihtisk site could also provide direct access to the publication for free to anyone who wanted to read them. Thus, in addition to being a bookstore, Knihtisk became a kind of public philatelic library open to all interested parties. Visitors are free to read all Knihtisk publications on-line at no cost whatsoever, and only incur an expense if they want to own a copy of the document themselves.

The Web site has had visitors from all over the world -- even from the Czech Republic, but only a few copies have been sold via the Knihtisk Web site whereas dozens have been sold on eBay. Ebay, then, remains the most viable market, perhaps because people are more willing to purchase from eBay than from an unknown Web page.

The publications are sold in three formats. First, for those who wish, electronic copies may be delivered via email. Since delivery is essentially free, the cost for any Knihtisk publication delivered via email is \$3.00. The first dollar of this fee goes to the Prague group as a royalty; the other two dollars support the Knihtisk Web site. If one wishes, the files for as many Knihtisk publications as desired may be put on a CD, which will be delivered postpaid anywhere in the world for an

additional \$4.00. Finally, on-demand paper copies of publications may be had for the sum of the cost of postage, a ten-cent-per-page printing fee, and the \$3.00 Knihtisk charge. The Web site order form explains these charges more clearly.

Recently, discussions with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately opened the door to having the Society distribute paper copies of Knihtisk publications through the club bookstore [*Available Publications*]. Because the Society will be able to print them more cheaply than an individual can, the price per paper issue may be much more reasonable.

Even if the books are sold in the bookstore, the Knihtisk Web site will remain open. That way, those who cannot afford to purchase a study, or those who simply need to briefly refer to the studies, will still have access to them.

So far, Knihtisk has begun two series of publications. *Series 1: Plating the Hradčany* will eventually consist of more than thirty volumes, of which ten have already been published. Knihtisk is also publishing a series called *Occasional Monographs*.

The ten volumes published so far in the Hradčany plating series describe the 5h First Design, Plates I - IV (two volumes); the 30h First Design; all three denominations of the Second Design -- 100h, 200h and 400h (three volumes); and all four denominations of the Fourth Design -- 60h, 80h, 300h, and 1000h (four volumes). By special arrangement with the author, a never-before-published study of all four plates of the 20h First Design is being readied for publication.

The first release in the occasional monographs series is a rework of a translation of parts of Volume 2 of the *Monografie* about the Dove issue. Although the translation originally appeared as a series in *The Specialist*, the Knihtisk version has been reformatted to match the pages of the original, its illustrations all rescanned, and several omissions and errors in the original translation corrected. The second volume in this series is a translation of the Hradčany portion of Volume 1 of the *Monografie*, but it is still incomplete and has not yet actually been published. It also may well be offered as a series in *The Specialist*.

Knihtisk should also be looked upon as a new avenue for publishing essays and papers about Czechoslovak stamps. Because electronic publishing is so much cheaper than paper publishing, readers of the *Specialist* might think about submitting manuscripts for publication to Knihtisk that would not otherwise be economically viable or of interest to a large enough readership to warrant publication.

You may review all Knihtisk publications by going to the Library page at www.knihtisk.com and you may contact Knihtisk via info@knihtisk.com.

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OF 1920 BUSINESS ISSUE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Tony Dewey 157 Warrenton Avenue Hartford, CT 06105 AFDewey@AOL.COM

Union of Czech Philatelists reports
CZECH-GERMAN PHILATELIC EXHIBITION
“OSTROPA 2003”

by Lumír Brendl
 SCF President

OSTROPA 2003 was the second Czech-German Stamp Exhibition with a limited international participation. It took place in Jihlava (Iglau, in German, a town in the vicinity of Telč where Henry Hahn is an honorary



Fig. 1

citizen) from April 24-27, 2003 under the auspices of the Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Cyril Svoboda. In the Exhibition also collections from the **Visehrad Group** states (Hungary, Poland, Slovakia) and from neighboring Austria were presented. From the



Fig. 2

USA, Jaroslav J. Verner, a member of ArGe Tschechoslowakei and member of the SCF (Union of Czech Philatelists) took part in the competitive class for Philatelic Literature. And there is good news for the **Society for Czechoslovak Philately**: Jaroslav was awarded the Gold Medal for his extremely interesting handbook **“Mail of the Czechoslovak Legions in France”**. Congratulations, Jerry! The Organizing Committee



Fig. 3

of OSTROPA 2003 would have been even happier if more members of the Society had participated. Unfortunately, OSTROPA 2003 (planned since the year 2000) was overlapped by WESTPEX 2003, held in San Francisco from April 25-27, 2003.

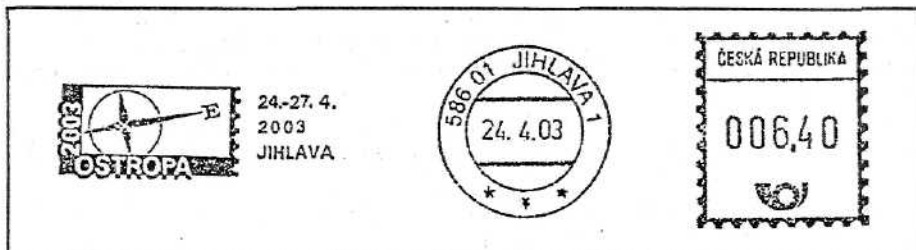


Fig. 4

The Exhibition was commemorated by two postal cards, three special handstamps (Fig. 1-3), exhibition advertising postal marking, special francotype, or: metered mail (Fig. 4), two stamp booklets, special registered mail label, a postcard for a Children's Post Office (Fig. 5), and by several souvenirs (Fig. 6). The very first **Czech personalized postage stamp** (Fig. 7) was also available at OSTROPA 2003. It was -- and it is -- a HIT for collectors as well as non-collectors. From now on, at some philatelic exhibitions in the Czech Republic, or at the Czech Post shop



Fig. 5

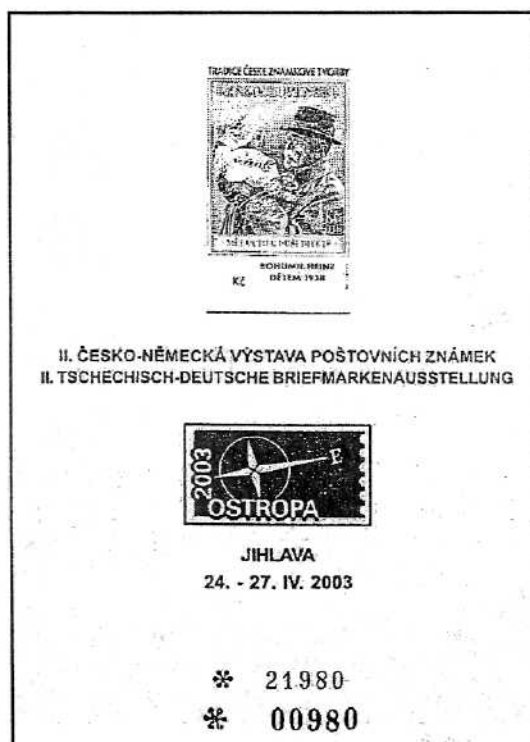


Fig. 6

POSTFILA in Prague, a personalized Czech stamp called “a definitive stamp with coupons for additional printing” can be ordered (if photo or logo is sent). The address is as follows: Česká Pošta (Czech Post) POSTFILA, Ortenovo Nám. 542/16, CZ-170 24 Praha 7, CZECH REPUBLIC, fax: +420-220 875 543, e-mail: petrusova.michaela@ozdos.cpost.cz. OSTROPA 2003 was the first public presentation of stamps with coupons for additional printing. The stamp “ROSES ABOVE PRAGUE” was inspired by a poem written by the Czech Nobel Prize winner Jaroslav Seifert.

The Union of Czech Philatelists' aim is to gradually transform OSTROPA (= East and Central Europe, or: Ost Europa, in German) from bi-lateral exhibitions into multilateral ones in which philatelists from the East and

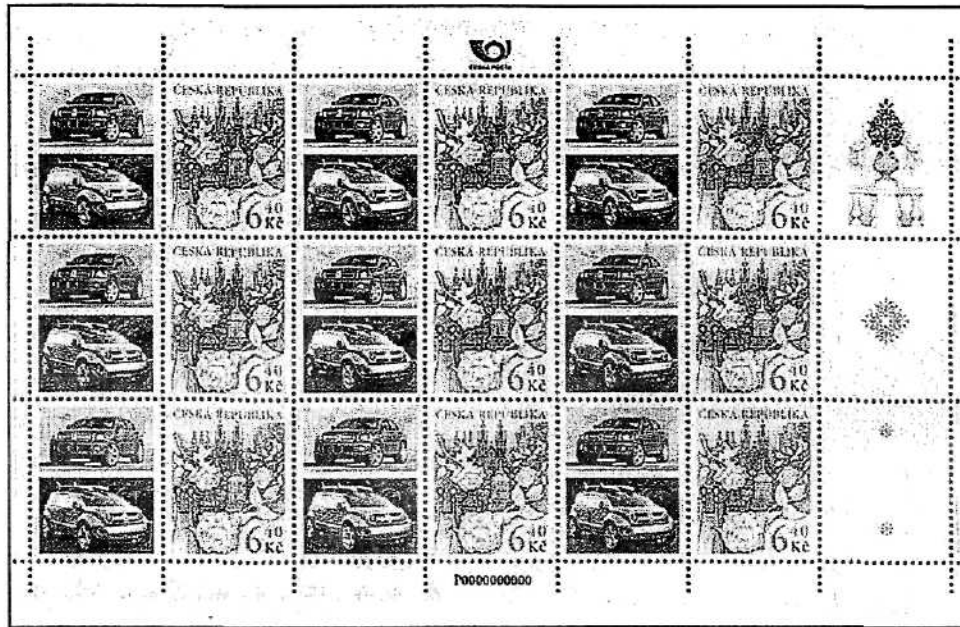


Fig. 7

Central European countries within the framework of the EUROPEAN UNION would take part, and which would be OPEN for those citizens of Czech origin or members of societies for Czechoslovak philately living abroad. It will depend, of

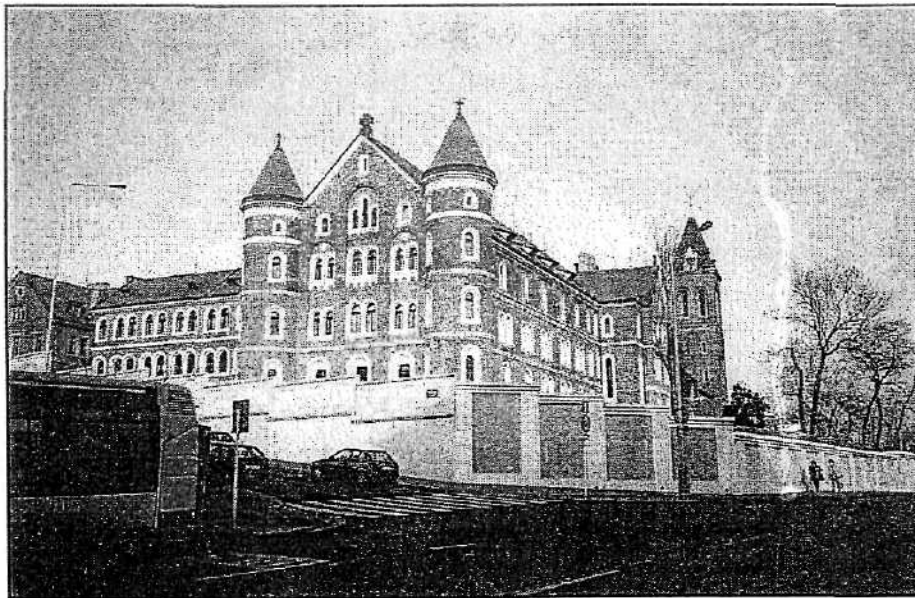


Fig. 8

course, on other European federations and societies if they are interested in this concept.

Now, all efforts of the SCF and the Czech Post organizers are aimed at the very first EUROPEAN Stamp Exhibition in the Czech Republic -- BRNO 2005. It is to be held at the Brno International Trade Fair grounds from May 10-15, 2005. It will be held under FEPA Patronage and with FIP Recognition. We are sure that the U.S. Commissioner will bring a number of first-rate exhibits prepared by the Society members. We also count on Henry Hahn as a member of the BRNO 2005 International Jury.

On January 1, 2003 the Secretariat of the SCF moved to its new premises. Thanks to the Czech Post -- partner of the SCF and the owner of the premises, it is now located in the former St. Gabriel Monastery in Prague 5 -- Smíchov (Fig. 8). The address is as follows: Svaz Českých Filatelistů, Holečkova 10, CZ-225 07 Praha 5 -- Smíchov, CZECH REPUBLIC; phone/FAX; +420-222 541 395, e-mail: scf@iol.cz. In a short time also an SCF web site will be available.

Lumír Brendl
SCF President



Book Review

Historie Poštovníctví v Telči a Okolí POSTAL HISTORY OF TELČ AND ITS REGION by Henry Hahn

Actually this is a Czech language version of a previously (1983) published book in English, but with a big difference. There are more and better illustrations, photographs, updates, and a more expanded text.

The book is 6 x 8 1/4 inches and 48 pages long. It begins with the postal history of the Telč region connecting the town to the then postal service between Prague and Vienna of the eighteenth century, covering WW I, the new Republic, WW II, and to the present day.

The author shows the growth of the region's postal service through illustrations and photographs. Also portrayed are many Czechoslovak and Czech postage stamps and postal cards with Telč as the topic.

There are many postal history publications dealing with a single city or region, but Henry Hahn's is by far the best.

Contents:

- I. Historical introduction
- II. Connecting Telč to the postal system
- III. M. Ramboušek post.
- IV. Postal delivery
- V. Post cancels of the 20th century
- VI. W.W. I
- VII. Transition period after W.W. I
- VIII. Regular cancels of the first Republic
- IX. The Sudetenland crisis
- X. German occupation

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- XI. Liberation
 - XII. Commemorative postal cancels
 - XIII. Postage stamps picturing Telč
 - XIV. Postal paper
 - XV. Postal meter cancels
 - XVI. Post offices
 - XVII. Postmasters of Telč
 - XVIII. Local philatelic organization
- and Translations of area towns from German into Czech
Savoy Horvath



TO BE or NOT TO BE by Charles Chesloe

I have been collecting stamps from Czechoslovakia for over 50 years.

At first I was buying stamps from Arthur Kessler and Alfons Stach. At auctions I purchased stamps from Harmer-Rooke, Mercury Stamp Co., H. R. Harmer, Cross Stamp Co., and United Stamp Co. in New York. I also purchased stamps from other auction firms in the USA, Germany, and Austria.

In the past most of the rarities were hinged or lightly hinged. Since the early rarities were small in number, nearly all were bought up by collectors and mounted in albums with stamp hinges.

In mostly all of the auctions which occur today, note all of the Czech rarities that are offered unhinged. There is something funny here. I seriously think that nearly all the scarce stamps offered today as unhinged are stamps that were lightly hinged before and new gum was applied from the bottle to change the condition to unhinged. Note the catalog prices today how they reflect a higher value for unhinged copies as those which are hinged.

I have always advocated lightly hinging your stamps because stamps must breathe. Encased in plastic mounts causes the gum to harden and crack. As P. F. Appfelbaum wrote in one of his articles many years ago, to pay through the nose to buy unhinged stamps is like throwing away your money at the races. I would rather have a lightly hinged stamp with original gum because this stamp has gum from the post office and not from a bottle that was applied previously [*sic* - subsequently].

If the gummed side was the side you exhibit, then I must admit that a hinge leaves a slight mark on the gum.

This article will probably not convert the gum collectors, but hinged with original gum is probably more of a true statement today than mint never hinged.

[Ed. Note: Our member, long time collector, and Czechoslovak stamp expert, Charley Chesloe has raised a very interesting and potentially controversial issue here. I have my own thoughts on this including some potential causal factors, but will hold them to myself for now. I encourage readers to write to the editor with their views on this important issue.]

Sister Society News
CPSGB 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
 by Richard Beith

As I promised in my article in the May/June SPECIALIST, I am sending details of the Martin Činovský souvenir sheet. I enclose a scan of this, 100% life size (Fig. 1) [reduced here].



Fig. 1

Numbered copies can be obtained from our Chairman: Mrs. D. Lindy Bosworth at £7.50 including postage, VISA and MASTERCARD accepted, or, say \$12 in dollar bills.

Mrs. D. Lindy Bosworth
 18 Raymer Road
 Penenden Heath, Maidstone
 ENGLAND ME14 2JQ

50th Anniversary Exhibition at the Czech Embassy
London: 22-24 May 2003

Following the Society's participation in London's Spring Stampex Exhibition at the end of February and the invited display given to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on 20 March, the final public event of this 50th year was a 140 frame exhibition displayed at the Czech Embassy in London with the kind co-operation of both the Czech and Slovak Ambassadors. This was held from 22-24 May and

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attracted a good attendance. The exhibition was opened by His Excellency Štefan Füle, the recently appointed Czech Ambassador to the United Kingdom, at an enjoyable reception.

The displays covered an immense range of topics relating to the philately of the Czech and Slovak lands including pre-philately, postal history, railway mails, aerophilately, military posts of both world wars, exhibitions, stamp designers and thematic subjects.

The celebrations concluded with an excellent anniversary dinner at the Vincent Rooms. Our Chairman Mrs. D. Lindy Bosworth presided and the guests included the new Ambassador Štefan Füle and Mrs. Füle and the recently retired former Czech Ambassador Mr. Pavel Seifter and Mrs. Seifter. Mr. Füle expressed his appreciation of the activities of the Society and looked forward to further collaborations between the Society and the Embassy. The toast to the Society on reaching its 50th year was given by Hartmut Liebermann, Chairman of the *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei e v*; the reply was given by CPSGB Vice Chairman Richard Beith.

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SALE OF UNBOUND SPECIALIST'S

The Society has back copies of the SPECIALIST available for sale to members at reduced prices. Years 1981-2002 are priced at 25 cents per copy. Prior years are priced at 50 cents per copy. We do not have all years complete, and in many cases only have a few copies of an issue. Therefore, the issues will be sold on a first come first served basis. Photocopies can be made (at cost -- about 7 cents per page) to provide a limited number of copies to complete some year's issues, if specifically requested.

You may order the SPECIALIST's which you wish to purchase by submitting a request to the Society Librarian:

Mark Wilson
316 Devland Drive
Winchester, VA 22603

Please include your membership number and a deposit of \$10.00 (make the check out to Mark Wilson and not to the Society) to cover the cost of postage and packaging to mail the SPECIALIST's to you. (If you are purchasing less than five SPECIALIST's, the deposit may be reduced to \$5.00.) Unless requested otherwise, the SPECIALIST's will be mailed to you as Third Class mail. You will be billed for the SPECIALIST's which you are purchasing when they are mailed to you. Any balance from your deposit after subtracting the cost of postage and packaging will be applied to your bill (or refunded, if your total purchase cost plus postage is less than the deposit).

SPECIALIST's are available for the following years: 1966, 1968 to 1971, and 1973 to 2002. Not all years are complete! If you only want complete year sets, please say so; otherwise I'll send those copies currently available for any year which you request.

I sometimes obtain a very limited number of loose issues from earlier years; if you are missing an issue from one of these earlier years, I may be able to help, but these will be sold to you at the cost which the owner sets.

Mark Wilson

Philatelic News and Views

From Savoy Horvath:

-- The Czech Republic has a brand new forgery -- it is the new 6.40 Kč Pansy definitive stamp. It originated in Moravská Ostrava and spread all over the country. There is a slight difference in color from the original, also it is a little darker, and the forgery lacks the shiny stamp under-printing.

-- About halfway through July the Czech Post (CP) will issue a 6.40 Kč stamp that will bear the portrait of president Václav Klaus. This value will allow the stamp to be used to mail first class letters in the Czech Republic. The Castle got the first design for the stamp back in March for approval, but Klaus did not like it. The President had himself photographed again, and the engraver began presenting one new design after another until now. This stamp will carry on the tradition begun in 1918 that a stamp be issued immediately bearing the portrait of the new president (which was violated only once, during the period of the Bohemia and Moravia Protectorate). This latest issue will appear much later after inauguration than any previous one -- by a lot. The record for the shortest "development" time is still held by the original Václav Havel stamp of 1990 which was issued only 9 days after his inauguration.

-- The new Václav Klaus stamp will be available soon. However, just as the 10 heller coin is being withdrawn from circulation, mandating that all heller prices in the CR be rounded off to 50 heller or 1 Crown, so it will be with postage stamps (they will all need to be set to 50 heller or to Crowns). This change takes effect on November 1st. Thus, this new Klaus stamp will be withdrawn from circulation in about a month or two, and a new 6.50 Kč Klaus stamp will be issued in its place -- it will answer to the new first class rate going into effect then.

-- June 1st was the 50th anniversary of the ill fated money reform (měnová reforma) by the communist ČSR. On that day Pilsen saw the first large anti-communist demonstration. Tens of thousands of Škoda workers congregated at the factory and then took to the streets. First they marched to the main square and then on to city hall, calling out battle-cries. They tossed out paperwork and documents from city hall and the court house, but what they really wanted was an explanation as to why they had been lied to. The protest finally ended when the militia came in. From the words of one of the marchers: "I had saved 12,000 Kčs for new furniture (the exchange rate on Sunday was \$1.00 = 8 Kčs). On Monday they gave me 240 Kčs for it, which was not even enough for 1/2 liter of liquor. Many others fared much worse, not having enough money left to even buy lunch."

-- Our member, Joe Lacko, contributed a number of Slovak publications recently, including 5 copies of a Sports Stamps of Czechoslovakia catalog [*see Available Publications*], some other Slovak Sport catalogs/publications, and a stack of Slovenská Filatelie and Bratislavská Filatelie. Most of these have been forwarded to our library.

From Linn's Stamp News, June 23, 2003:

-- **Cossaboom named Brno commissioner.** R.T. Cossaboom is the United States commissioner for Brno 2005, a Federation of European Philatelic Associations

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and International Federation of Philately exhibition to be held May 10 - 15, 2005, in Brno, Czech Republic. His mailing address is Box 25332, Scott AFB, IL 62225-0332.

From Henry Hahn:

-- Sindelfingen Stamp Fair 2004 -- Exhibition on Czechoslovak Philately. Sindelfingen is the largest stamp show in Germany. Each year a specific area of collecting is highlighted with a special exhibit. In 2004 it will be Czechoslovak philately. This Stamp Fair is held every year during the last weekend in October (Friday - Sunday). It is the largest Stamp Fair in Germany, and there is considerable international participation. There are lots of merchants from all over the world, also booths of postal administrations from different countries, information desks from philatelic societies, etc. During the Fair there is a symposium of lectures about different subjects from postal history.

-- 6th International Fair for Stamps, Coins, Telephone Cards, Minerals and Collecting, Prague 12-14 September 2003 -- conducted under the auspices of the Czech Post, Union of Czech Philatelists, Czech Numismatic Society, and Collectors Club of Phonocards of Czech Republic. This is actually a large bourse held in the Fučík Palace (or the Industrial Palace) at the Fairgrounds in Prague 7 -- Holešovice where PRAGA'68, '78 and '88 were held. I attended two years ago and found it remarkable due to the large number of YOUNG participants. The Trade Fair, which is a unique project not only in the Czech Republic but also in all post-socialist countries, has already set down good roots in the Czech capital and has become a well-known event which collectors from both the Czech Republic and abroad look forward to.

From Richard Beith:

-- The following new Monograph 16 has just been published by the CPSGB:

The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and Russia 1939-1941

and

Czechoslovaks in the Middle East 1940-1943

by the late Dr. Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung RDP. This latest monograph contains Otto Hornung's translations of two most important studies by the late Dr. Vratislav Palkoska, the noted Czech postal historian. Otto Hornung has provided additional comments based on his own experiences in Poland, Russia and the Middle East and a fine selection of archival photographs to enhance the text. Much new information is included, particularly with regard to the story of the Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and Russia. This A4 publication runs to approx. 60 pages and is very well illustrated. There are nine pages in colour and colour cover illustrations. This work is intended to complement the already published monographs Nos 5 and 15. [See Available Publications]

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Letters to the Editor

1. Dear Lou:

Gentlemen: I addressed this note to everyone as I wasn't sure who did or did

not know Phillips [Freer]. I had wondered about his health for some time now and thought about him when we were at WESTPEX because of our relative proximity to Mexico (compare to Virginia). I wrote him a note after the San Francisco show and received a response which I have retyped and copied below. Regards, Rich [Palaschak]

"Dear Rich,

I was so surprised and pleased to have a letter from you and in such a beautiful cover. I did not know that the Society was having a meeting in San Francisco. However, I would have been unable to attend as I am now confined to my bungalow where I have lived for the past 19 years. I am now 92 years of age but am being well taken care of by my dear friend, Srta. Rosario Ojeda. Recently 40 people from the US and a large number from Mexico held a three day meeting here at the Philatelic Museum, part of which was in honor of the research I did, many years ago, regarding the Oaxaca Provisional issues of 1915-16. They presented me with a beautiful silver medal but I was unable to attend the meetings so Rosario went in my

place and brought the medal back to me. I just could not make it without her constant care. Please excuse any typing mistakes as I have tried to memorize the keyboard and may not have been completely successful.

Sincerely
s/ Phil [Freer]



Fig. 1

2. Dear Lou:

You may or may not be aware of a second printing of the block (half of which is shown on the illustration)(Fig. 1).

It concerns the 1993 stamp in the Art series depicting "Ploughman's Spring" by Josef Kostka and issued on December 31, 1993 showing only Kostka's birth year 1912.

The second printing appeared on November 13, 1996 with his signature, and both the birth year and the year he died, 1996 [see Fig. 1].

I thought this may be of interest to our readers.

P.S. - This stamp was never mentioned in any New Issues review.

Kind regards,
Gerald van Zanten

3. Dear Mr. Svoboda:

I enjoyed Lubor Kunc's article about *podlepka* in the July-August issue of *Czechoslovak Specialist*. At the end of the article, he asks what the correct English term

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is for podlepka. It isn't English (it's French), but I believe that podlepka are porte timbre labels. Porte timbre labels are a type of cinderella stamp that serve as a carrier or framing device for a postage stamp. They were often nationalist or patriotic in nature.

I summarized Kunc's article as a filler for Linn's (and plugged the society). I always enjoy *Czechoslovak Specialist*. Keep up the good work.

Best regards,
Rick Miller
Associate Editor
Linn's Stamp News

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

New Issues

CZECH REPUBLIC

by G.M. van Zanten

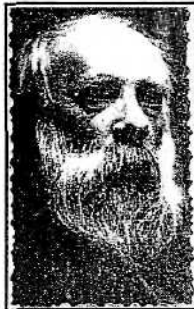


Fig. 1

1. Here is an addendum on the Personalities series stamp issued February 12, 2003, (reported on in the May/June 2003 issue, pg34) on Jaroslav Vrchlický. His real name was Emil Frida (1853-1912). He was a prolific author, his works include some 270 cycles of epic and lyrical poetry as well as numerous translations, mainly from Latin literature. His great mastery of language earned him admiration, and he was awarded many official honours for his teaching activities. On the other hand he was frequently involved in disputes as well as controversies. Even so, he was said to have "opened the windows onto Europe". This illustration of him is from the book *Pozdrav z Prahy* (Fig. 1).

2. On June 25, 2003, the Ministry of Communications issued a 9 Kč commemorative stamp on the occasion of the European Championship in Marksmanship (Fig. 2). The stamp shows a marksman aiming a rifle. Authorized by the European Marksmanship Federation, the Czech Marksmanship Union will host the European Championship in Marksmanship in 2003. The Army Marksmanship Stadium in Plzeň will be the venue (between the 17th and 28th of July) of



Fig. 2

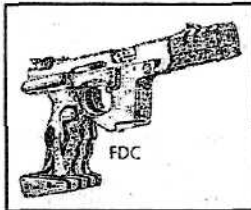


Fig. 3

the competitions in rifle disciplines, pistol disciplines, and in shooting at a moving target. A competition in pellet disciplines will take place between the 30th of July and the 6th of August in Brno. Marksmanship is one of the so-called technical sports which has been included in the Olympic contests since the first modern Olympic Games. Czech marksmen have a rather impressive record, as is attested by the 216 medals won by them in Olympic Games and World

and European championships since 1993. The stamp was designed by Kryštof Krejča, engraved by Pavel Kovářik, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in pink, brown, blue and yellow in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in blue depicts a rapid-fire sport handgun (Fig. 3).

3. On June 25, 2003, the Ministry issued a 9 Kč commemorative stamp in the series dedicated to significant Czech personalities (Fig. 4). This stamp



Fig. 4

is issued to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Josef Dobrovský (1753-1829), the famous Czech linguist, founder of Slavonic studies, and a historian -- and depicts him. He was undoubtedly the greatest personality of the first stage of the Czech National Revival. The main features of his scholarly work were a sense of criticism and scholarly truth (he, for example, did not hesitate to publicly express his doubt about the authenticity of the so-called Manuscript of Zelená Hora, a fake taken with extreme seriousness by most contemporaneous Czech patriots). Dobrovský,

who wrote his books in Latin and German, regarded language and literature as the basic expression of a nation's cultural and political development. He believed that the supreme period of the development of Czech literature was the period of the rule of the Habsburg emperor Rudolf II (1552-1612). He therefore used the Czech of this period as a basis for his codification of the literary standard of the Czech language. He dealt with the Czech language in his three books, "A History of the Czech Language and Literature", "A Detailed Grammar of the Czech Language", and "A German-Czech Dictionary". His research into Slavonic studies is reflected in the book "The Foundations of the Old Slavonic Language". He also wrote a critical appraisal of old Czech legends, "A Critical Attempt to Rid Old Czech History of Later Fantasies". The stamp was designed by Oldřich Kulhánek, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using rotary recess print in dark blue, combined with photogravure in ocher, green-blue, and pink in printing sheets of 50 stamps. A FDC in pink depicts a symbolized drawing of the roots of the Czech language and literature (Fig. 5).

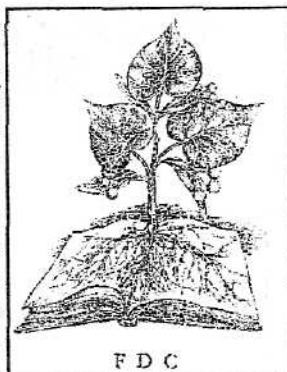


Fig. 5



Fig. 6

4. On July 30, 2003, the Ministry issued a 6.40 Kc definitive stamp with the portrait of the new president of the Czech Republic, Václav Klaus (Fig. 6). The stamp was designed by Oldřich Kulhánek, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using rotary recess print in blue combined with photogravure in ocher and pink-violet in printing sheets of 100 pieces. [See additional information about this stamp in the Philatelic News and Views column of this issue.]

Stationery

5. On June 25, 2003, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with an imprinted 9 Kč postage stamp for the 115th Session of the Olympic Committee in Prague (Fig. 7). The imprinted stamp bears the portrait of Bedřich Šupčík (1898-1957), who won the first gold medal for Czechoslovakia in the 1924 Olympic Games for climbing an 8-meter rope without crossed-leg grip and the bronze medal in the

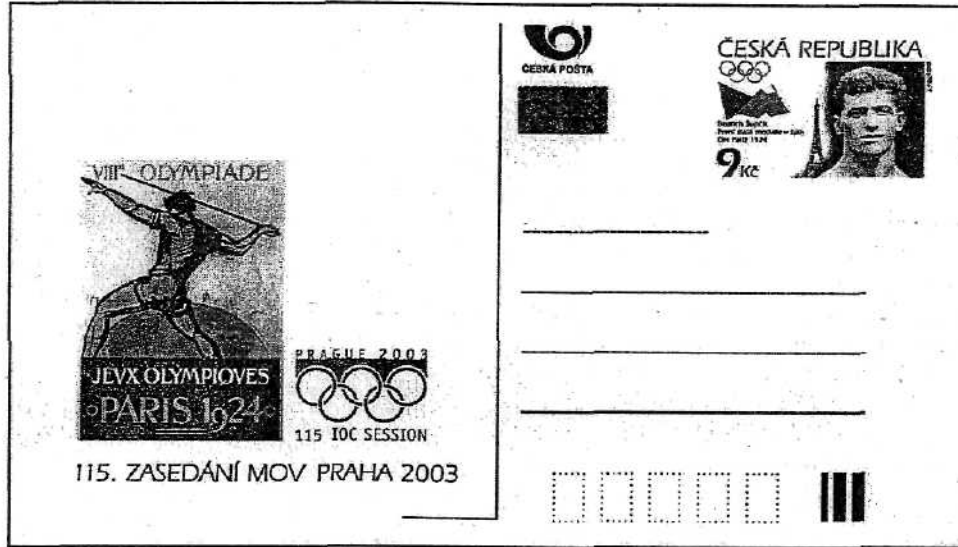


Fig. 7



Fig. 8

pentathlon. He also won medals in the 1928 Olympic Games, the title of 1926 World Champion and 1930 World Champion (teams), silver medal in the 1930 championship, and the bronze medal in the extraordinary championship of 1931 (rings). The cachet on the postal card shows a graphic composition of the logo of the 115th IOC Session and the poster from the 1924 Olympics in Paris. The postal card was designed by Jaroslav Fišer and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 14 Kč.

6. On June 25, 2003, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with an imprinted 6.40 Kč stamp to mark the 750th anniversary of the first historical record of the town Police nad Metují (Fig. 8). The stamp bears the coat-of-arms of the town along with the dates 1253-2003. The cachet shows the frontage of the town hall and the logo of the 750th anniversary celebration. The postal card was designed by Václav Kučera and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 11.40 Kč.

SLOVAKIA

by Gerald M. van Zanten

7. On April 6, 2003, the Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of two commemorative stamps with coupons on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Slovak Ecclesiastical Province (Fig. 9). The beginning of Christianity in the Slovak territory dates back to the Cyril and Method period when Method was appointed as Pannonia-Moravian archbishop in 870. At Prince Svätopluk's request, Pope John VIII established a diocese in Nitra in 880, which came under the jurisdiction of Method. This territory actually covered the northern



Fig. 9

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

part of Pannonia and, what is today, the Slovak Republic. After some years of military conflicts, the next Great Moravian ruler, Mojmir II made an effort to restore Christianity in his empire and therefore asked Pope John IX to ordain an archbishop and three bishops in 899. St. Method's successor was probably his close colleague St. Gorazd. "The Trnava Apostolic Administration was promoted to the level of diocese and Metropolitan See", -- a decision that Slovaks had been waiting for, more than 1000 years. In the Papal Bull "Qui Divino" dated December 30, 1977, Pope Paul VI proclaimed Slovakia an independent ecclesiastical province. By the document "Praescriptionum sacrosancti", he demarcated new dioceses which borders were inconsistent with the official Slovak borders. On July 6, 1978, the Slovak ecclesiastical province was solemnly proclaimed in the Church of St. John the Baptist in Trnava, thus the Holy See did in fact confirm the sovereignty of Slovakia before the state was officially established. After 1989, the importance of the province became even greater when new bishops were appointed in all Slovak dioceses. The issue was designed by Karol Felix, engraved by František Horniak, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset. [We have no information about the "souvenir sheet" layout that the stamps and their coupons are illustrated in.]

-- 17 Sk, St. Cyril: the stamp contains the saint's portrait and the first letters of the Glagolitic alphabet. The coupon depicts a Romanesque church in Dražovce. A FDC was issued.

-- 22 Sk, St. Method: there is the inscription "Method" in the Glagolitic alphabet under the saint's portrait. The coupon depicts a pre-Romanesque church in Párovce (in the area of Nitra). A FDC was issued.

8. On April 24, 2003, the Ministry issued a 15 Sk commemorative stamp in the Personalities series entitled "Ludwig van Beethoven" (Fig. 10). Ludwig van Beethoven (Dec. 16, 1770 Bonn - March 26, 1827 Vienna) was the most significant personality in Europe's musical history. He was a composer of many symphonies, works for piano, chamber music, songs, and the opera *Fidelio*. Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with *Ode to Joy* reaches the pinnacle of its genre as well as *Missa solennis*. Even though his compositions for chamber ensembles and 32 piano sonatas are technically difficult, they are still parts of concert programs. Beethoven lived in Vienna from 1792 until the end of his life, which enabled him to establish close relations with Slovakia, especially his good friends Mikuláš Zmeškal and Johann N. Hummel. In a letter, written on Sept. 23, 1796 in Bratislava, Beethoven announced to Vienna the date of his concert performance. He also composed *Cantata "Opferlied"* dedicated to Bratislava, which was premièred on December 23, 1822 in the Bratislava City Theater. On the occasion of Babetta Odeschalchi-Keglevich's marriage in Bratislava, Beethoven composed *Piano concerto in C Major*. He also wrote his most poetic composition *Sonata in c-sharp Minor "Moonlight"* inspired by the unique atmosphere of the Brunswick family residence in Dolná Krupá, western Slovakia. The stamp was designed by Karol Felix, engraved by Rudolf Cigánik, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC was issued.



Fig. 10

9. This stamp was already reported on in the July/August issue, pg41, issued Feb. 14, 2003, however, strictly as a greetings issue. This time (April 30, 2003) it is issued se-tenant with a label that can be personalized (Fig. 11). Part of the issue

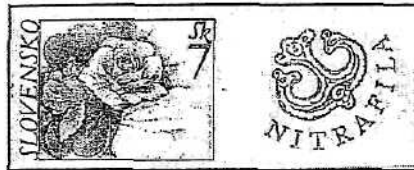


Fig. 11

will have a label surcharged with the logo of the International Philatelic Exhibition: NITRAFILA 2003. The exhibition was held in Nitra, June 11-15. Stamps with a customized coupon can be ordered by post from Slovak Post, s.o.e., at Kukučínova 52, 831 01 Bratislava, Slovakia, or on the Internet at www.pofis.sk and personalizovaznamka@tup.slposta.sk. A

heartfelt message or a photograph will act as a keepsake for years, a logo or short text can be a clever promotional message, either way it could be for you or an original present for friends. The stamp was designed by Kamila Štanclová, engraved by Martin Srb, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in sheets of eight. A FDC was issued.

10. On May 3, 2003, the Ministry issued a 14 Sk commemorative stamp (which is a joint issue with one from France that has a value of 0,50 euro) honoring Slovak astronomer, politician, diplomat, and general in the French Army, Milan Rastislav Štefánik (July 21, 1880 in Kosaricka near Bratislava -- May 4, 1919)(Fig. 12). The stamp design (identical in both stamps except for nominal value) portrays Štefánik in his French uniform before the Meudon observatory (near Paris) where he was a co-worker with world renowned astronomer P.J. Janssen. Having graduated in 1904 from Charles University in Prague, with a doctorate in philosophy and astronomy, the following November Štefánik left for Paris. By April 1905 he was working at the Meudon observatory. In 1912 Štefánik became a French citizen and at this time became involved in diplomatic activities on behalf of France. Here he combined scientific work with charm to advance France's power-politics around the globe and,



Fig. 12

in recognition of his contribution, he was decorated with the Legion of Honor. At the start of the Great War, he became a pilot in the French army and having successfully fought on the Serbian front and in France, he was made a General in the French army. Returning to Paris in 1915, Štefánik met T. G. Masaryk and E. Beneš who were laying the foundations for an independent Czechoslovakia, resulting in the foundation of the Czech and Slovak National Council. As a well connected soldier and diplomat, his missions in France, Italy, Russia and America were to unite Slovaks for a free and independent Czechoslovak State. When the Czechoslovak government, led by T. G. Masaryk, was established in 1918, Štefánik was appointed Minister of Defense. The following year he boarded a plane in Rome, bound for his native Slovakia. Inexplicably the plane crashed shortly before it was due to land in Bratislava. His tragic and untimely death never gave him the chance to see the fruits of his lifetime's work for a free and independent Czechoslovakia. The stamp was designed by Jozef Baláz/Martin Činovský, engraved by Martin Činovský, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset in printing sheets of eight pieces. A FDC was issued.

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11. On May 9, 2003, the Ministry issued an 18 Sk commemorative stamp in the Art on Stamps series which depicts the painting "Stream behind the Barn on the Bank (around 1875)" by Ladislav Medňanský which now hangs in the Slovak National Gallery (Fig. 13). Ladislav Medňanský (also Mednyánszky, 1852 Beckov -- 1919



Fig. 13

Vienna) was one of the greatest painters who was born and lived in Slovakia. He belongs to the main representatives of Central European painting of the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, and is one of the few artists who responded directly to the new streams of painting. He studied at the Academy in Munich and at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. After finishing his studies, he hired a studio at Montmartre. He lived alternately in Strážky, Beckov, Paris, Vienna and Budapest. When he came back from Paris, his early impressive themes of moody landscapes were influenced by impressionism. Medňanský derived his landscape inspiration from the area of the Váh and Poprad river basins and from the Tatra's nature as it is shown in his works *Evening on the Pasture*, *Moonlight Landscape with Rider*, *Boat on the River Poprad*, *The Belianske Tatras*, and *Thaw in the Mountains*. Apart from paintings, he devoted himself to figural composition. The stamp was designed and engraved by František Horniak and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using six-color recess printing from flat plates. A FDC was issued which includes as a cachet Medňanský's oil painting "Thaw (around 1875)".

12. On May 9, 2003, the Ministry issued a 14 Sk commemorative stamp in the EUROPA series entitled "Advertising Poster" (Fig. 14). The stamp depicts a poster by Vladislav Rostoka showing a mounted butterfly and advertising Molière's *Don Juan*. The Trnava Poster Triennial is a significant international competitive exhibition of posters, which has been periodically organized since 1991. The event is held under the auspices of the International Council of Graphic Design Associations ICONGRADA, based in London. The Triennial has a consultative status with UNESCO. The event is mainly organized by The Ján Koniarek Gallery in Trnava in alliance with the Trnava City Council, The Slovak Design Center in Bratislava, and The Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava. There are two competition categories -- for professional individuals/teams, and for students of fine art academies. The author may participate by sending their advertising, film, theatric, expositional or social posters. The International Jury selects the works to be awarded. The Master's Eye Award is given to graphic designers, experts in the field of visual communication and art historians for their outstanding achievements, organization of events and promotion of graphic design. Vladislav Rostoka, a great Slovak graphic designer, got the Master's Eye Award twice. The stamp was designed by Vladislav Rostoka, engraved by Arnold Feke, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset. A FDC was issued which includes as a cachet Rostoka's *Hamlet*.



Fig. 14

13. On May 16, 2003, the Ministry issued a 13 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "St. Andrej Svorad and St. Benedict" (Fig. 15). St. Andrej Svorad (980? - 1034?), monk and hermit, came from Poland, and his Slavic name is Svorad (Świerad in Polish). In the monastery of St. Hypolit in Zobor near Nitra, he adopted the name Andrej. He renounced a common life in the Benedictine monastery and preferred the life of a hermit with fasting and uninterrupted prayer. One legend holds that his hermitage was in a small cave in the Skalka mountains beside Trenčín above the Váh River, where he lived with his follower Benedict (? - 1037?). After Andrej's death, the monk Benedict continued to live out in quiet seclusion at Skalka. Around 1037, he was attacked by highwaymen, trussed up and thrown into the Váh River. One year later, Benedict's body was found intact in the water. He was buried in the grave of his spiritual father Andrej in the basilica of St. Emeram in Nitra. In 1064, Pécs's bishop Maurus wrote a biography of the two saints. In 1083, Pope Gregory VII canonized Svorad and Benedict, and they became patrons of the Hungarian Kingdom. In 1930-31, the saint's remains in silver relics were removed to a newly reconstructed Romanesque church near the basilica. The stamp was designed by Igor Benca, engraved by František Horniak, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC was issued.



Fig. 15

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685) **1. Publication Title:** The Czechoslovak Specialist, **2. Publication No.:** 0526-5843, **3. Filing Date:** September 10, 2003, **4. Issue Frequency:** Bi-monthly, **5. No. of Issues Published Annually:** 6, **6. Annual Subscription Rate:** \$18.00, **7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication:** 11 1/2 N. Washington St., Shippensburg, PA 17257, Contact Person: Nancy Godfrey, Tele. 717-530-8818, **8. Complete Mailing Address of General Business Office of Publisher:** 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, **9. Names and Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor:** Publisher: Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., 1285 Coyote Rd., Prescott, AZ 86303; Editor: Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015; Managing Editor: (same as above), **10. Owner:** Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., 1285 Coyote Rd., Prescott, AZ 86303, **11. Security holders:** None, **12. Tax Status:** The purpose, function, and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: Has not changed during preceding 12 months, **13. Publication Title:** The Czechoslovak Specialist, **14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below:** September 1, 2003, **15. Extent and Nature of Circulation:** **A. Total No. Of Copies (net press run):** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 months: 500; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 500; **B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation** (1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 - Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 281; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 275; (2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 - Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution - Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS - Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 42; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 45; **C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 323; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 320; **D. Free Distribution by Mail:** (1) Outside County as Stated on Form 3541 - Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 13; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 14; (2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541 - Average No. Copies During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS - Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 15; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 15; **E. Free Distribution Outside the Mail:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; **F. Total Free Distribution:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 28; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 29; **G. Total Distribution:** Average no. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 351; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 349; **H. Copies Not Distributed:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 149; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 151; **I. Total:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 500; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 500; **J. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 92%; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 92%, **16. Publication of Statement of Ownership:** X Publication required. Will be printed in the Sep/Oct 2003 issue of this publication. **17.** I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete.

Ludvik Z. Svoboda, Editor