



THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



(USPS 808300)

Official Quarterly 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. 72

SPRING 2010

No. 2, Whole No. 620

PARTICIPATE IN A VIRTUAL AUCTION by Jaroslav J. Verner

Most serious stamp collectors come to the point in their collecting when it seems that there is no more material to be had. Our normal sources, whether they be exchanges, dealers, bourses and so on, seem to have less of what we still need for our collections and our contacts with them are somehow less satisfying. They don't seem to cut down our want lists as they use to. Or is it when we finally realize that we have been adding only higher priced items to that list, which usually means that these additions are also rarer and harder to find. It is often at this point that we collectors start looking at auctions because that is where all the "good stuff" seems to end up.

To be sure hunting Czechoslovak postal material in auctions is a catch-as-catch-can business. Czechoslovakia was a small country and its postal material was usually a small part of larger sales that cover the world. Not since the demise of the Mercury Stamp Company has there been an auction house that specialized only in Czechoslovakia. Until, that is, after the Velvet Revolution which, among other things, made it possible for dealers to come out of the shadows and to begin to hold public auctions in Prague and other Czechoslovak cities.

(Continued on Page 20)

Table of Contents

ARTICLES	Author	Page
1. Participate in a Virtual Auction	Jaroslav J. Verner	1
2. Czechoslovakia's Hradcany Issue Provides Myriad Opportunities for Stamp Collectors	Frank Garancovsky	3
3. The Annexation of Subcarpathian Rus to Czechoslovakia During 1918-1920 (Part 2)	Karel Mezera	12
4. Saga of Patriotism, Exile to End in Slovak Cemetery	Rick Hepp, Ron Grossman	26
COLUMNS		
5. Book Review: Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook 2009, CPSGB Monograph #19	Rhoads/Koschalk	22
6. Philatelic News and Views	(various)	23
7. Letters to the Editor	(various)	24
8. New Issues	G.M. van Zanten	28

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Here is a list of all benefits to which S.C.P. members in good standing are entitled.

1. A sales circuit is operated by H. Alan Hoover. The circuit itself has been fully written up in the May/June 2004 SPECIALIST. For complete details, contact H. Alan Hoover, 6070 Poplar Spring Dr., Norcross, GA 30092, or e-mail: h.alan.hoover@cspilately.org
2. A book sales division is run by Savoy Horvath. A listing of philatelic books for sale appears regularly in the SPECIALIST. For further information, contact Savoy Horvath, S8207 - US Hwy 61, Readstown, WI 54652-7056, or email: cancelcek@mwt.net
3. A Society library is housed with Bob Gibson, librarian. For inquiries on borrowing books, buying past SPECIALISTS or making book donations, contact Bob Gibson, 7646 3rd Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD 21060, or e-mail: zdbob@aol.com.
4. An expertization committee operates under the direction of Ludvik Z. Svoboda. Depending on the nature or substance of the item to be expertized, he will direct you to the appropriate source for expertization. Please contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, or email: Lousvoboda@comcast.net
5. THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official bi-monthly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles, advertising rates, and bound copies, contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda (see address/e-mail above).
6. Our web site (www.CSPilately.org) on the Internet provides Society information on Membership, History, Education, Auctions, Exhibits, Book Reviews, Contacting other members via e-mail, and more. The site is maintained by Marisa Galitz, 1430 Brickell Bay Drive, #907, Miami, FL 33131, e-mail: MMGalitz@gmail.com.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

(ISSN 0526-5843)

Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

A.P.S. Unit 18

SPRING 2010

No. 2, Whole No. 620

Vol. 72

Published quarterly - \$25.00 per year

Membership inquiries to Secretary (address below)

Periodical Paid at Shippensburg, PA 17257

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

11½ North Washington Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257

Web Site: www.cspilately.org

Editorial Staff

Managing Editor: Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 South Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

e-mail: Lousvoboda@comcast.net Phone: 303-680-7118

Assistant Editor: Gerald van Zanten, P.O. Box 159, Napier, New Zealand

Foreign Editor: Savoy Horvath, S8207 US Highway 61, Readstown, WI 54652

Elected Officers

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

Vice President: R. P. Livingston, 213 Ceret Court SW, Vienna, VA 22180

Secretary: Philip Rhoads, 905 E. Oakside St., South Bend, IN 46614

Treasurer: Edwin Lehecka, 100 Monroe St., Apt. 301, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Appointed Officers

Book Sales: Savoy Horvath, S8207 US Hwy 61, Readstown, WI 54652

Circuit Man.: H. Alan Hoover, 6070 Poplar Spring Dr., Norcross, GA 30092

Expertizing Chrm.: Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 South Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

Librarian: Bob Gibson, 7646 3rd Ave., Glen Burnie, MD 21060

APS Representative: Tom Cossaboom, Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302

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

CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S HRADCANY ISSUE PROVIDES MYRIAD OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS

by Frank A. Garancovsky

In this modern era of technological advances in computerized graphics and postage-stamp printing, specializing in a specific area of stamp collecting can be much more rewarding.

My personal favorite field of specialization is the Hradcany stamps, the first stamp series issued by Czechoslovakia. The Hradcany stamps were issued in October 1918 in conjunction with the creation of the new sovereign nation of Czechoslovakia, carved out of the former Austro-Hungarian empire following World War I.

Art nouveau artist Alfons Mucha created five different designs for the stamps featuring St. Vitus Cathedral, the castle in Hradcany (pronounced "Hrad Chan ee"). The castle is shown on the picture postcard shown in Figure 1.

The war had just ended, and postal officials were scurrying to establish a mail-delivery system. In October 1918, Czechoslovakia experienced shortages of paper, ink and other materials, in addition to the lack of industry personnel who were knowledgeable in the production of postage stamps. Neighboring countries had been in the postal business for more than 50 years and had long established a viable system of producing postage stamps, along with the successful delivery of mail.

In desperation, Czech postal authorities turned to Prague book printer Czech Graphic Union (UNIE) and commissioned them to produce Czechoslovakia's first stamps. Because of the size of the order and the lack of production time, UNIE chose to print the stamps by typography (also known as letterpress printing). The process has its advantages and disadvantages. It is simple and inexpensive, and in 1918, it was comparatively fast. On the other hand, its disadvantages include the inability to distinguish between shades of light or shadow, frequent printing errors and a fairly short life span for the printing plate (about 10,000 impressions).

During the printing process, the equipment and printing plates broke down frequently. These failures resulted in printing varieties. Retouching was often necessary. Sometimes the retouching was successful, but generally it was botched.

The workforce was inexperienced, and poor plant supervision, lack of discipline and inferior production controls compromised the integrity of the final product.

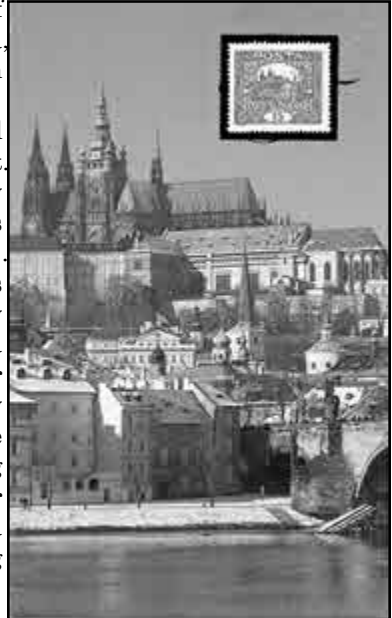


Figure 1. St.Vitus Cathedral, the castle in Hradcany, Czechoslovakia, is shown on this postcard with a 15-haler stamp affixed.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Printer's waste was to be burned, but employees, seeing an opportunity for personal gain, stole much of it and sold it to collectors and stamp dealers. Today, when offered at auction, printer's waste sometimes realizes more than the genuine stamps. Examples of printer's waste are shown in Figure 2.

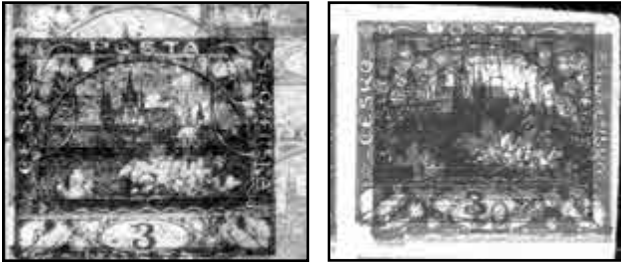


Figure 2. Printer's waste was to be burned, but employees, seeing an opportunity for personal gain, stole much of it and sold it to collectors and stamp dealers. Printer's waste sometimes realizes more at auction than the genuine stamp.

From 1918 through early 1920, 26 denominations with five different designs were issued in the Hradcany series. The series includes color shades, and official and unofficial perforations and roulettes. The early stamps in the series are imperforate, but not long after the printing began, perforation machinery was imported. Another trial-and-error period

began with an attempt to standardize the perforations, without much success. These trials resulted in more varieties.

The first three stamps of the series were issued December 18, 1918. They were the 3-haleru red violet, 5h green and the 10h red. These were quickly followed December 30 by the 20h bluish green and the 25h deep blue. On January 23, 1919, a 30h bister stamp was issued, followed shortly thereafter by a 40h red orange. These seven denominations (Scott 1-7), shown in Figure 3, all feature the same design, the hradcany castle with the words "Posta Ceskolovenska" [sic] in white on a colored background.

The high-denomination stamps -- 100h brown (Scott 8) and 200h ultramarine (Scott 9) -- were issued January 14, 1919, with slightly different design. The words "Posta Ceskolovenska" [sic] are in color on a white background.

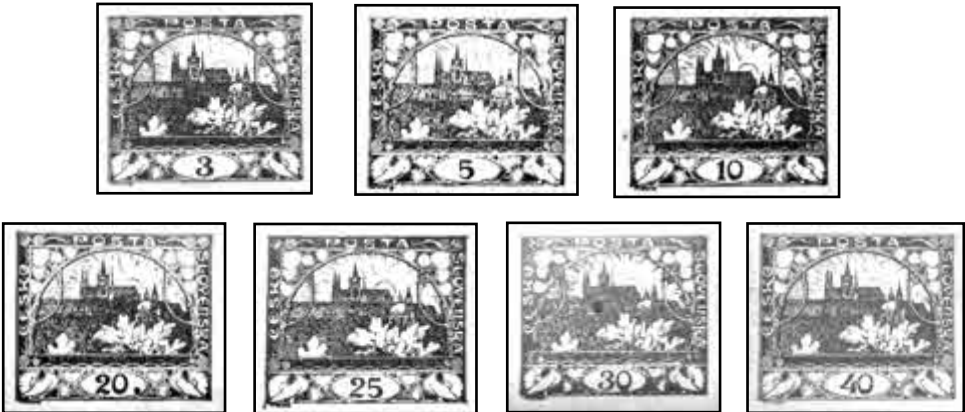


Figure 3. The seven low-denomination stamps (Scott 1-7) of the Hradcany Castle series. The stamps can be distinguished from later issues by the inscription "Posta Ceskoslovenska," which is in white on a colored background on the first set.



Figure 4. The high-denomination stamps of the 1918-19 Hradcany series: 100 haleru, 200h and 400h (Scott 8-10). Unlike the low-denomination stamps of this set, “Posta Ceskoslovenska” is in color on a white background.

On January 29, 1919, a 400h violet stamp (Scott 10) was issued, again with the inscription in color on a white background. The three high-denomination stamps are shown in Figure 4.



Figure 5. The third design retained the castle, but “Posta” is white, bold and prominently displayed across the top of the stamp. The country name “Cesko-Slovensko” is hyphenated and placed immediately above the denomination oval.

As the Czech postal system evolved, providing a variety of services, the need arose for additional denominations to meet frequent postal-rate increases. On February 27, 1919, the postal administration introduced a third design. The design retained the castle, but in a departure from the first two designs, the word “Posta” is white, bold and prominently displayed across the top of the stamp. The country name “Cesko-Slovensko” is hyphenated and placed immediately above the denomination oval across the entire width of the stamp. The *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog* and the *Scott Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers 1840-1940* identify this design as illustration A2. The design was used for Scott 23-53. The first stamp of the new series, the 1h dark brown stamp (Scott 23), was issued March 14, 1919, and is shown in Figure 5.

What the Scott catalog describes as illustration A2 features three design varieties. The Scott catalog describes these design differences as:



Figure 6. These helpful sketches show the progression of the designs of the Hradcany stamps (clockwise from top left): the original design, “Posta Ceskoslovenska” in white on a colored background; “Posta Ceskoslovenska” in color on a white background; Scott Type II, “Cesko-Slovensko” hyphenated and placed immediately above the denomination oval with the sun placed behind the cathedral and with colorlessless [sic] foliage pictured in the foreground; Scott Type III, showing no sun, the large bush above the word “Slovenska” is shaded or striped; Scott Type IV, picturing no foliage in the foreground, the positions of the buildings are changed and the letters are redrawn.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Type II, sun behind cathedral. Colorless foliage in foreground;

Type III, without sun. Shaded foliage in foreground;

Type IV, no foliage in foreground. Positions of buildings changed. Letters redrawn.

These types are represented in the drawings pictured in Figure 6.

On April 10, 1919, Czechoslovakia issued a 60h orange stamp (Scott 32), and on April 22, 1919, the 80h olive green (Scott 34) and the 300h dark green (Scott 38) stamps were issued. The denominations increased dramatically with the issuance June 2, 1919, of the 1,000h violet stamp (Scott 40). This denomination generally was used in the banking industry for money transfers and mostly was seen on dispatch notes between banks and occasionally on money-order receipts.

With 16 denominations already in use, and with increased parcel post and money-order business, a new design was introduced, one that was less cluttered and provided a sharper image of the Hradcany environs. The new design was more compatible with the postage rates at the time. It is worth mentioning that not all post offices had all the postage stamps in stock because they were issued from Prague. Distribution was allocated according to the need of a particular post office.

Many examples of bisected stamps exist from isolated areas where even the low-denomination stamps were unavailable. If a 5h stamp was needed to pay the postcard rate and none was available, a 10h stamp was bisected either diagonally, vertically or horizontally to provide the correct postage. Horizontal bisects are extremely rare because the top half showed no portion of the denominations, and clerks could not be trusted to recognize stamp denominations based on color.



Figure 7. The fifth design of the Hradcany issue is described as Type IV in the Scott catalog.

No foliage is pictured in the foreground.

The fifth design (Figure 7) was used for 10 denominations and is described by the Scott catalog as Type IV (no foliage in the foreground): 5h blue green (Scott 42), 10h yellow green (Scott 43), 15h red (Scott 44), 20h rose (Scott 45), 25h dull violet (Scott 46), 30h red violet (Scott 47), 50h dark blue (Scott 31), 75h slate (Scott 33), 120h gray black (Scott 53) and the 500h red brown (Scott 39).

Of the five designs, the fifth design provides collectors with the most desirable and valuable stamps of the entire series. The issue dates for this set were as follows: 5h, August 1, 1919; 10h and 20h, January 3, 1920; 15h, June 6, 1919; 25h, July 9, 1919; 30h, April 12, 1920; 50h, August 19, 1919; 75h, July 3, 1919; 120h, July 28, 1919; and 500h, August 9, 1919. The issue dates are provided for cover enthusiasts to determine first days of issue.

Most of the Hradcany stamps discussed thus far can be obtained from regional dealers, mint or used, at a reasonable cost.

If you are up to the challenge and interested in expanding your collection of Hradcany stamps, you will find many plate flaws, errors and varieties available. Specialized societies and catalogs offer information needed to expand a collection to a more meaningful level. The pace at which such a collection develops is limited to your desire to progress.

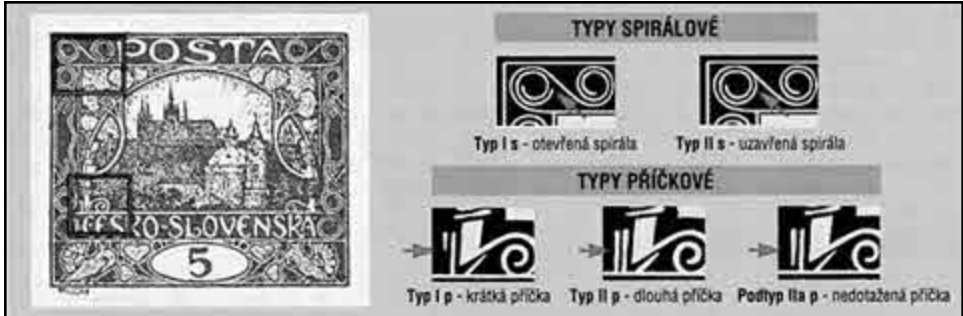


Figure 8. Varieties exist in the spirals and bars in the locations indicated by the red boxes in the stamp design at left. The spirals (top row) are either open or closed. The bars are described (bottom row left to right) as short bar, long bar or incomplete bar. [From *Pofis catalog Ceskoslovensko 2007*, courtesy Pofis, Prague, Czechoslovakia]

The fifth design (Scott Type IV) is the most challenging of all the designs. This group of stamps includes plate flaws involving the spirals and the short bars, vertical lines immediately above the letter “C” of “Cesko” (Figure 8). This occurs in six denominations of this design: 5h, 15h, 20h, 25h, 75h and 500h. The spirals are designated by specialists as open and closed. Even more interesting is to find these varieties as joint pairs or multiples.

The bar types are Types I, II and IIa as shown in Figure 8. Again, finding them as joint pairs or multiples is challenging and could be an expensive venture. The more common type I, in both spirals and bars, are readily found. They are inexpensive because there were multiple plates made of each denomination. Instances exist where a particular plate had a limited number of open spirals, perhaps one or two in an entire sheet of 100 stamps. The prices for these varieties escalate dramatically, especially as multiples.

Another major flaw of this design was the color varieties. I mentioned earlier the shortages of ink. Once the ink supply was stabilized, each new shipment varied in shades of specific colors. The shade varieties affect the cost of these stamps. As an example, the 15h stamp can be found in the following shades, in order of value, from the most expensive to least expensive: carmine, red brown,



Figure 9. The normal 3h Type I is shown at left; the right branch below the seventh leaf is vertical. The center stamp has a major flaw in the right branch opposite the sixth tower, with a large blank spot below the sixth and seventh leaves. This flaw is at position 90 of the first plate. The 3h stamp on the right is the retouched variety, showing a right branch that is curved and connected to the sixth leaf. This is perhaps the finest retouched stamp of the Hradcany series.



Figure 10. The white circle on the clock tower appears to be a clock face without the time markings or hands. The variety is found in position 91 of plates I and II of the four plates made.

brown red and brick red. The various combinations of spirals and bars varieties also can dramatically affect the values of these stamps.

Another example of a color variety is the 120h of this design, which does not exist with the spirals or bar varieties. The basic color is gray. In order of value, from most expensive to least expensive, are the silver gray variety, light gray and black gray. Bargains can be found in dealer stocks. Examine these stocks carefully.

Design Types I and II also have a few prominent plate faults. The 3h Type I has major flaw in the right branch opposite the sixth tower, with a large blank spot below the sixth and seventh leaves (Figure 9). This is at position 90 of the first plate. On the normal stamp, the right branch below the seventh leaf is perfectly vertical. The stamp on the far right in Figure 9 features the retouched variety showing a right branch that is



Figure 11. Another example of a plate flaw: This Hradcany 20h blue-green stamp features a plate flaw that shows numerous streaks within the denomination oval. The flaw is found at position 25 in plate II.



Figure 12. Two types exist of the 400h purple stamp. In the lower right corner of Type I, in the area of the two bottom spirals above the right dove, appears a white horizontal slash through the two spirals and a white line connected to the part of the design just above the right spiral. This area on the retouched stamp (Type II) is solid purple. [Illustration taken from Pofis catalog Ceskoslovensko 2007, courtesy Pofis, Prague, Czechoslovakia]

curved and connected to the sixth leaf. Here we have perhaps the finest retouching example of the entire Hradcany stamp series.

The 10h red has a clock face between the first and second towers (Figure 10). This is found in position 91 of plate I and II of the four plates made.

The 20h blue-green stamp has a large dot to the lower right of the zero within the denomination oval at position 78 of plates II, III and IV. A second 20h plate flaw is at position 25 in plate II, showing numerous streaks within the denomination oval (Figure 11).

On the 400h purple stamp, at the lower right in the area of the two bottom spirals above the right dove, there is a white horizontal slash through the two spirals and a white connecting line to the design above the right spiral (Figure 12). On the retouched 400h, these areas are solid purple.

Six vertical gutter pairs exist of design Type I, with both stamps either facing the same direction or in tête-bêche format, with the stamps inverted in relation to each other. Examples of both are shown in Figure 13.

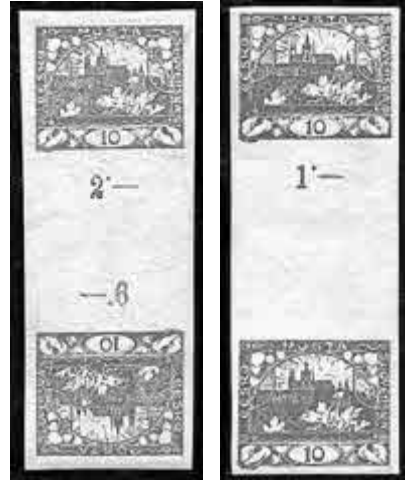


Figure 13. Two examples of the six vertical gutter pairs that exist of design Type I, with both stamps either in tête-bêche format, with the stamps inverted in relation to each other,

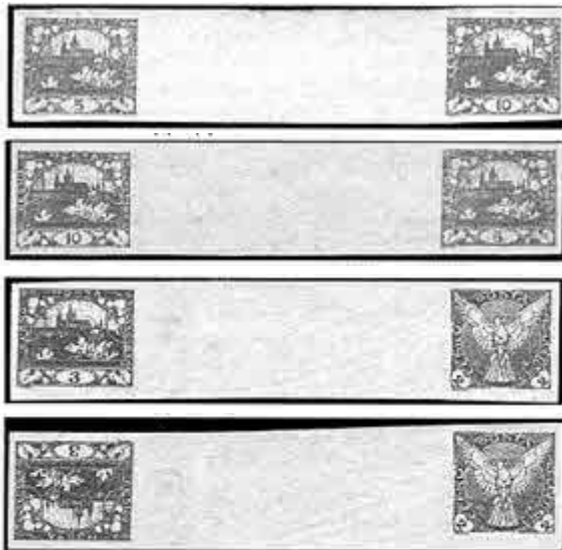


Figure 14. Horizontal gutter pairs can be found with a Hradcany stamp paired with another Hradcany stamp of a different denomination or with a Czechoslovakia newspaper stamp. [From Pofis catalog Ceskoslovensko 2007, courtesy Pofis, Prague, Czechoslovakia]

Interesting horizontal gutter pairs can be found with a Hradcany stamp paired with another Hradcany stamp of a different denomination or with a Czechoslovakia newspaper stamp (Figure 14). These come folded and unfolded. The pairs of the 80h bister are expensive, but the other denominations (3h, 5h, 10h, 20h and 25h) are more reasonably priced.

A specimen stamp overprinted "Vzorec" is pictured in Figure 15. Specimen stamps are found imperforate and perforated, many of which are reasonably priced. Trial prints in black on white paper, color trials on various papers and printers waste also are available.



Figure 15. Hradcany stamps overprinted "Vzorec" are specimen stamps, used for publicity purposes. Specimen stamps are found imperforate and perforated, many of which are reasonably priced.

When airmail service began in Czechoslovakia in 1920, Hradcany stamps were overprinted and surcharged to meet demands for airmail stamps (Scott C1-C6, Figure 16). The 14k on 200h, 24k on 500h, and 28k on 1,000h exist perforated and imperforate. Varieties of spirals, bars and perforations exist on these stamps. Black-and-white trial prints and color trial proofs can be found.

Hradcany stamps were overprinted "Doplatit" and surcharged for use as postage due stamps (Scott J15-J31, Figure 17). Again, spiral and column varieties exist on these stamps.

The last of the Hradcany overprints include 21 stamps overprinted "SO 1920" in two lines, for use in the plebiscite in Eastern Silesia (Figure 18). The overprints can be found in the Scott catalog under Eastern Silesia (Scott 1-30). Similar varieties continue to be found on

these stamps, with an additional twist of overprints in black, red or blue. The colors were changed to make the overprint more visible. The 200h stamp was officially overprinted in red for use in Eastern Silesia but also exists in black. The 500h stamp was overprinted in blue, but also can be found with a red overprint, and the 1,000h was issued with a blue overprint but exists with a black overprint.

When you have acquired a representative collection of what has been described here, you might become enamored with plating the Hradcany stamps. This is a fascinating project but can be frustrating. Information on plating can be found at the website www.knihtisk.org. The website is devoted to the Czechoslovakia stamps printed by typography, or letterpress. Information also is available on CD-ROM.

It is prudent to give credit to Alfons Mucha, the

designer of this spectacular series. It was his inspiration that resulted in this magnificent series of stamps.

The artistic design exudes symbolism. Mucha once said, "Every nation has its palladium. Since my childhood I have worshipped the incarnation of this symbol in St. Vitus Cathedral." The rising sun with its brilliant rays symbolizes the resurrection of the nation after a long period of darkness. Some artistic license was taken here; the sun actually sets behind the cathedral. In later designs, the sun is omitted, symbolic of the arrival of freedom.

In the vicinity of St. Vitus Cathedral sits an architectural jewel in St. Nicholas Church, with its gleaming green brass cupola among the red tile roofs of



Figure 16. Czechoslovakia's first airmail stamps, issued in 1920, were Hradcany stamps overprinted with a silhouette of an airplane. The airmail stamps were surcharged with new denominations in korunas.



Figure 17. In 1922, Hradcany stamps were surcharged and overprinted "Doplatit" for use as postage due stamps. Shown here is the 10 doplatit on 3h red violet (Scott J20).

Lesser Town, or Mala Strana. More artistic license was used in the stamp designs in placing the cupola to the left side; the tower remains in the background of the stamp.

With the main theme in place, Mucha decorated the outer perimeter with more symbolic Slavonic ornaments. The Czech, Moravian and Slovak people are represented by the living branches, with two linden twigs sprouting tender leaves at the top of each corner. The larger leaf represents Bohemia, and the smaller leaves symbolize other Slav people.

The little cocks stand for the arrival of faith and hope in a happy future for the new country. The small hearts represent tolerance and a desire for peace and love among its people and their neighbors.

Hradcany stamps can be purchased from stamp dealers or through auctions, particularly European auctions. Auction catalogs are a valuable research tool for collectors.

The Society of Czechoslovak Philately is a specialized society devoted to the stamps of Czechoslovakia. The society provides access to its philatelic library and holds annual conventions. The society maintains specialized circuit books where collectors can obtain stamps seldom found at regional stamp shows. The society also offers expertizing and translation services.

Most of the specialized catalogs are in the Czech language, but the catalogs usually include several pages of glossary terms in two or three languages. The Society of Czechoslovak Philately offers *Glossary of Philatelic Terminology*, a 128-page, spiral-bound booklet with translations from Czech and Slovak to English and from English to Czech and Slovak.

Members of the society receive the bimonthly journal, *The Czechoslovak Specialist*. For membership information, visit the society's website at www.csphilately.org.

My hope is to inspire you to consider specializing in a stamp issue or an area of interest, if not in the Hradcany issues, then in a country or topical area tailored to your particular interests. Research into these specialized areas keeps our hobby vibrant.

Special thanks to Loretta Ekoniak for color photographs that appear with this article and to the Society of Czechoslovak Philately for black-and-white illustrations that originally were published in The Czechoslovak Specialist. Also a special thanks to Pofis, publisher of the Czechoslovakia 2007 catalog, published in Prague, for permission to use illustrations from the catalog.

[Ed. Note: The Specialist is please to reprint this article with the permission of the editor and the author. Copyright 2010 by Amos Hobby Publishing Inc. Reprinted by permission from the March 2010, issue of Scott Stamp Monthly, Sidney, OH. www.linns.com]



Figure 18. Czechoslovakia's Hradcany stamps were overprinted "SO 1920" for use in Eastern Silesia during the occupation following World War I. Shown is Scott 26.

THE ANNEXATION OF THE SUBCARPATHIAN RUS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA DURING 1918-1920 (PART 2)

by Karel Mezera
trans. by Vladimír Kralicek

One of the most interesting periods in the history of the Subcarpathian Rus is that of 1918-1920, when it was incrementally incorporated into Czechoslovakia. In the previous part of this article we devoted ourselves naturally to the events subsequent to the break-up of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, and we got ourselves up to the start of the Czechoslovak army's occupation of the Subcarpathian Rus the end of April and the beginning of May 1919.

VI. Period of War with Hungary (30.5. - 5.7.1919)

VI (1). The Hungarian Offensive

The Bély Kuhn government did not recognize the, so called, Demarcation Line II and stood up against the advancing Czechoslovak Army with their own military forces. On May 30 the Red Army undertook a big offensive in three main directions (towards Košice, Zvolen, and Banská Štiavnica), and on the same day the Hungarians crossed the Pichonov Line and thus launched the undeclared war with Czechoslovakia. Against the lightly armed and retreating Czechoslovak Army stood the newly rearmed and numerically reinforced Hungarian 3rd Army of about 70 - 80,000 men. In the area of the Eastern Army Group the Hungarian attack was directed on one hand towards Sárospatak and Sátoraljaújhely, and on the other hand towards Košice. Due to this situation, General Hennocque -- with an order dated May 31 -- divided his forces into a Košice sector and a Carpathian group.

VI (2). The Carpathian Group

The Carpathian Group -- on whose territory was also found the lands of the Subcarpathian Rus -- was formed on 1.6.1919, and on 3.6. its command was taken over by the French General Destremeau. The northern boundary of the group was formed by the former border between Uhrum and Halič, the western by the Tokajik and Slanec



Map 3: Military situation on the territory of the Košice and Carpathian Groups during the first half of June 1919.

highlands, the southern a line from Sárospatak -- the right bank of Tisa-Lónyosino, and the eastern the railroad line Mukačevo - Volovec. The function of this group was defense.

The Hungarians were rapidly advancing and thus General Destremeau ordered the majority of the units to the defense of Sátoraljaújhely and Košice. Only three battalions -- in Užhorod, Čop, and Mukačevo -- were left for the guarding of the Subcarpathian Rus. Sárospatak fell on June 5 and Sátoraljaújhely on June 6. The Group progressively lost Secovce, Michalovce, Humenné, and Vranov, and on June 10 the Hungarians penetrated all the way to the Polish border and thus divided the Eastern Group into two parts, which lost contact between themselves. In the middle of June the line of defense in the Carpathian Group's territory stabilized on a line eastward from Sečovce and Trebišov -- southward from Čop. On June 17, from units that had been isolated in southern Slovakia and the Carpathian Rus, General Destremeau organizes the 1st Infantry Division and the 1st Territorial Brigade.

VI (3). Airmail Postal Services: Užhorod - Spišská Nová Ves

Contact with the rest of the Czechoslovak territory was only by air, using the route Užhorod -- Spišská Nová Ves. This was carried out by two return flights by army aircraft, which also carried military mail, that was collected and delivered by Field Post 46. And it is exactly these rarely occurring entires which make it possible to illustrate the June 1919 military events in the Subcarpathian Rus (Fig. 13).



Figure 13: Picture postcard carried by air from Užhorod to Spišská Nová Ves with the blue Type I cancel of FP 46 and the unit cancel of the police station (in Mukačevo).

The first person to notice this interesting chapter in our aerophilately was Bohumil Matějka, who, in the 1960's, apparently had the opportunity to study original documents, for example, the official daily diary of Field Post 46. After him the majority of details were taken on by other authors, such as Josef Tekel, in whose work [ref. 6] it is possible to find more detailed information about this air post. Bohumil Matějka is the first to give the date of 5.6.1919 as the day of the last Field Post 46 consignments sent by surface mail before the interruption of the postal service. From many years of experience I have acquired the knowledge that consignments with the airmail post markings (the blue F.P. 46 canceler and particular unit cancel) and the 6.6.1919 date cancel occur much more often than consignments with any later date. This leads me to the belief that on this day may have been sent the last FP 46 surface mail consignments, because on June 6 the Hungarians were only to be found near the line Košice - Sečovce and the northern route was still open, even if only by adjacent road networks. This assumption would be difficult to prove of course, because

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



Figure 14: Picture postcard with a message written in Užhorod dated 13.6.1919, carried (possibly by courier) to the Command Headquarters in Jindřichův Hradec, from which it was forwarded on 26.6. by civilian post.



Figure 15: Picture postcard with a message written in Mukačevo on 20.6.1919 by the same sender as in Fig. 13, which was carried to Czechoslovakia via Poland by a member of the Delegation of Railwaymen.

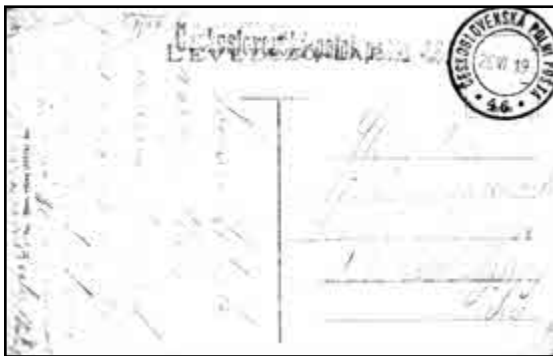


Figure 16: Picture postcard from a Field Post 46 worker with daily cancel 28.6.1919, where the writer states: "With the assistance of aircraft I am sending you my regards, we are cut off from you." In fact, this announced third flight probably did not take place.

authentic documents are no longer available, and therefore a 6.6.1919 date on a FP 46 daily cancel henceforth counts as one of the attributes of being flown by air.

Another one of the markings of consignments that were flown by air on the route Užhorod - Spišská Nová Ves is the unit markings from some of the units isolated from the remainder of the Eastern Army Group. A complete list of these units, which no one has so far presented, is as follows: I, II, III/28 Battalion; Zbraslav Shock Company; I, II, III/36 Battalion; I, II, III/3 Battalion; II/21 and III/21 (II/74) Battalion; I/8 Rifle Battalion; 13/23 Legionnaire Company; 1/71 Guard Company; 1st Company, 1st Regiment "Slovenskej Slobody"; I Battalion Slovakian Brigade; 3/4 and 2/1 Battery, 1/2 Squadron 3/6 Dragoon Regiment; Russian Cavalryman Capt. Zálesky; Engineer Companies 2/2, 2/3, 5/1 and 5/3; Work Companies 6/74 and 5/81; Telegraph Company; Transportation Group 3, and a Police Unit.

It is not entirely correct that contact with the isolated territory was only by air. There were also other possibilities -- I have in my collection two interesting entires: The first is a postcard (Fig. 14) that was written in Užhorod on June 13 and was delivered (possibly by an opportune courier) on June 26 to the garrison headquarters in Jindřichův Hradec, from where it was forwarded onwards via the intercession of the civilian post. Even though the card has none of the air transport markings, it was

evidently transported in some way from the isolated territory. Another card (Fig. 15) was written in Mukačevo on June 20, the unit marking is that of the police station (in Mukačevo), and at the end of the text is a message that “the post is being carried for us by a delegation of our Czech railwaymen, who are going from Mukačevo, via Poland, to our government in Prague”.

That an additional postal flight was prepared is confirmed by references in correspondence written in the isolated territory after June 20 (Fig. 16). In fact, if the details given by B. Matějka are correct, this flight was not carried out and collected consignments were not dispatched until July 7 by a surface route.

VI (4). New Borders and Hungarian Withdrawal

On 12.6.1919 the peace conference in Paris approved the new temporary border between ČSR and Hungary, and both sides were made aware of this on 15.6. These borders were more favorable for Czechoslovakia than the previous Pichonov line. They incorporated into Czechoslovakia, amongst others, the Čop area, and also established the course of part of the Subcarpathian Rus border up to the border with Romania. It was basically identical with the final border from 1920.

On the basis of the Entente’s ultimatum, the Hungarians agreed to a ceasefire beginning June 24 and to the withdrawal of their forces to behind the border. On the section of the Carpathian units the Hungarians ended their withdrawal on July 5, and the Czechoslovak forces occupied the relinquished territory by July 17. Thus, once again Giraltovce, Humenné, and Trebišov were acquired. Also, on July 7 Field Post 46 in Užhorod re-established postal contact with Košice and with the rest of the Republic (Fig. 17).



Figure 17: Picture postcard from the Carpathian Group Headquarters with the Field Post 46 Type II blue cancel dated 7.7.1919, when the first consignments were sent by surface mail from this field post after the partition of the Eastern Group. From the text: “From the 7th we have postal contact with Košice and onward.”

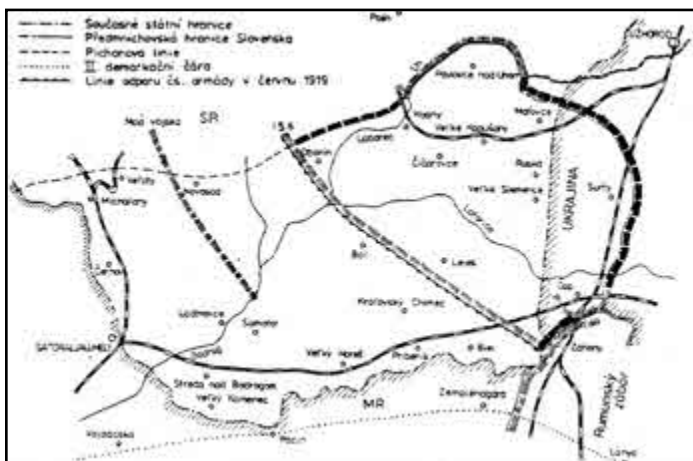
VI (5). Čop Region

Within the scope of the new borders with Hungary, the Čop region and area west of Čop were attached to the ČSR. On the north this area was bordered by the Pichonov line, and eastward by the already occupied part of the Subcarpathian Rus. Although in the First Republic this area was administratively attached to Slovakia, the border between Slovakia and the Subcarpathian Rus was, in this their part of the border, established artificially, and thus geographically -- in conjunction with the inhabitants -- this territory belongs at least in part to the Subcarpathian region. Before the annexation the Čop area was administratively divided -- some of the villages in the eastern part belonged to the Užhorod district, with the remainder

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

belonging to the Zemplín district. After the attachment of this territory to Slovakia, then the whole area came under the administration of the Zemplín district. Since 1945 the easternmost part of this territory (Čop, Surty) belongs first to the Soviets and now to the independent Ukraine.

By the end of April 1919 the Czechoslovak forces had already occupied the Čop area during their advance into the Subcarpathian Rus. Even after the May 30th offensive by the Hungarian forces, the Czechoslovak Army held part of the territory, and in the middle of June the line of Czechoslovak resistance was roughly



Map 4: The Čop region showing the line of resistance of the Czechoslovak units during the middle of June 1919.

in the direction of Oborín -- northward from Kráľovský Chlmec -- southward from Čop, where it joined with the Romanian front line. On July 5, after the Hungarian withdrawal, units of the Eastern Army Group started their advance to the new border and completed it by July 7. During the Hungarian withdrawal the bridges across Bodrog u Somotoru were demolished and thus contact with the western part was interrupted.. That is why on July 9 the eastern part of this territory (up to the river Latorica) by common agreement was transferred to the Romanian Army for guarding. The Rumanians began to retreat to the new borders the end of July (they left Čop on July 22). After July 7 Czechoslovak units remained in the western part continuously (from 15.7. it was the 30th Rifle Regiment).



Figure 18: Picture postcard delivered by the railway headquarters in Čop on 2.10. 1919 and the same day passed to the Čop post office which had again been put into service.

During the Hungarian postal administration there could be found 19 post offices and 11 contract post offices in the area (see Ref. 1). Civilian postal service was renewed here about the end of September 1919, when the Čop (Fig. 18) and Kráľovský Chlmec post offices again began to operate. The register of post offices in Slovakia states that for September 30, 1919, the post offices of Velké

Kapušany, Ruská, Pavlovce nad Uhom, and Surty had changed hands. Documents about the activities of these post offices during the fall of 1919 are not known to me.

VI (6). The Neutral Zone

A neutral zone along the CzSl.--Hungarian border (2 km on each side) -- established by agreement with both sides on 1.7.1919 -- was entirely divided into four sectors with observation posts of the mixed supervisory commission. Of these, the two sectors with observation posts of the supervisory commissions in Miškovce and Čop encroached on the territory of the Subcarpathian Rus. Surveillance of the neutral zone was supposed to be performed by the police, but in fact it was soon taken over by units of the Eastern Army Group.

In the fall of 1919 in the Hungarian part of the neutral zone, the Czechoslovak post operated a temporary civilian post office in the village of Beregsurány. Further details about the reasons for the establishment and length of operation of this office are not known (Fig. 19).



Figure 19: Receipt clipping of a Czechoslovak postal order franked with Hradčany stamps, submitted 10.11.1919 at the Berehovo post office, which documents that at that time it was operating as a Czechoslovak post office.

VII. Occupation of the Remainder of the Subcarpathian Rus

VII (1). Resumption of the Advance

In June 1919 as a consequence of the war with Hungary the occupation of the Subcarpathian Rus was temporarily interrupted and then resumed in August of that year. By the fall of 1919 the majority of places east of a line Kosino -- Volovecky Průsmyk were already occupied with the exception of territory so far held by the Rumanians. The occupation was carried out by units of the Eastern Army Group, which were served on the one hand by Field Post 46, and on the other hand by Field Post 14 established on 26.8.1919 for the 10th Infantry Division -- both being based in Užhorod. On 25.10.1919 the Provincial Military Command for the Subcarpathian Rus was established in Užhorod, and the Eastern Army Group was disestablished.¹⁰ [10Ref. 14 gives the date 15.9.1919, in fact consignments from the headquarters of the Eastern Group occur along with dates that are several months later.]

VII (2). General Statute of the Subcarpathian Rus

After the Peace Accord was signed in Saint Germain on 10.9.1919, which confirmed the annexation of the Subcarpathian Rus as an autonomous area to Czechoslovakia, the Czechoslovak Ministerial Council drew up the "General Statute for the Organization and Administration of the Subcarpathian Rus". The Statute was ceremoniously proclaimed on 16.11.1919 in Užhorod, and its 2nd Article states also, among others, that the borders between Slovakia and the Subcarpathian Rus are as defined by the Territorial Commission of the Peace Conference in Paris [7]. The borders proceeded from Čop to Užhorod and further

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

on along the Pichonov Line with the proviso that the Czechoslovak Government is authorized to carry out small changes. This the government did in the Užhorod sector, where it moved the border a little more to the west and incorporated into the Subcarpathian Rus, besides others, nine villages hitherto Slovakian with their post offices and a contract post office (see Paragraph II (3)).

VII (3). Postal Organization in the Occupied Subcarpathian Rus

On 17.11.1919 the postal administration for the Subcarpathian Rus was formed with its head office in Užhorod. On December 1 it had already begun its activities and was directly subordinate to MPT [Ministry of Post and Telegraph --trans.] in Prague. The MPT Bulletin of December 8 announces that three post offices in the Subcarpathian Rus had been fully taken over, these being Užhorod, Mukačevo, and Berehovo.



Figure 20: Picture postcard from a soldier of the 11th Rifle Regiment, submitted 9.8.1919 at the Mukačevo 1 post office, is early proof of the renewed operation of this post office.

Conversely, the official register of post offices that had been taken over in Slovakia stated for 30.9.1919 that about 20 post offices had been taken over (besides those in the Užhorod region). Based on the preserved entires there were in fact substantially fewer actually operating post offices -- the first being P.O. Mukačevo 1 in August

1919 (Fig. 20) and the second being P.O. Berehovo, from which I have the earliest evidence from September 1919. A few more of them were put into service in November and December 1919, with the remainder finally in 1920. In the years 1919-1920, altogether there were around 80 post offices reactivated.

The post offices that had been newly put into service were provided with sufficient CzSl. stamps, and Austrian and Hungarian stamps were no longer valid there. Conversely, Austrian stationery was valid even on the territory of the Subcarpathian Rus up to 14.10.1919,¹¹ [11Monografie 1 states an incorrect date of 14.12.1919.] and thus we may encounter their usage, even though not as often as in Slovakia (Fig. 21)¹² [12The sale of Austrian



Figure 21: Hungarian 10 fil. postcard upfranked with a Czechoslovak Hradčany stamp, and posted at the Berehovo post office on 1.10.1919. Its cancel with the distinguishing letter E is the only known Republic cancel used in the Subcarpathian Rus.

stationery had already been discontinued on 13.6.1919, and apparently in the Subcarpathian Rus they were not again provided, and thus used items come either from being inherited from old stock in post offices or from private stocks.] The usage of Hungarian Republic postcards is also documented, approved and sent without franking.

According to Ref. (8), on 28.10.1918 there were 31 contract post offices functioning in the Subcarpathian Rus, which had greater authority than contract post offices in the Czech lands. They could cancel stamps and were actually post offices of a lower order



Map 5: The first routes of the Czechoslovak train posts in the Subcarpathian Rus.

(in the register of post offices they are also listed along with the regular post offices). The greatest majority of them, perhaps as a consequence of the war's events in 1919, ended their activities and only a smaller number of them in the later years were again reactivated. The discovery of entires from the period of the CzSl. occupation in the years 1919-1920 are very unique.

The putting into service of train post in the Subcarpathian Rus proceeded very slowly due to a shortage of personnel and financial security. The railway network here was not very dense, and thus the MPT Bulletin dated 9.12.1919 introduces only three train post offices operating in the Subcarpathian Rus, they were: Košice - Čop - Užok; Košice - Čop - Baťovo - Mukačevo - Volovec; and Košice - Čop - Baťovo - Berehovo. These posts later received in the CzSl. train post system the numbers 1 001, 1 005, and 992. In 1919 the train post Berehovo - Dovhé (later 1 008) was also operating. All of the train posts used, at the beginning, Hungarian postal administration daily cancelers with their original numbers, and they are not found very often.

The first CzSl. daily cancelers were only supplied to the post offices in the Subcarpathian Rus in 1920 -- at first they were only monolingual. This was contrary to the language autonomy agreement of the Subcarpathian Rus, and therefore these first few cancelers were changed into bilingual ones with the text also in Rusyn.

Selection of reference books used:

- [1] Mezera, K.: Pichonova Linie, Filatelie 14, 15/1991.
- [2] Klim, J. - Schödelbauer, V.: Československo 1918-1939, M-R, Brno 2002.
- [3] Blaha, M.: Zakarpatsko, Filatelistická Příručka SČF c.20, Praha 1989.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

- [4] Mezera, K.: Dočasně Obsazení Maďarských Území Čs. Armádou v r. 1919, Filatelistické Sešity, Filatelie 1992.
- [5] Beneš, F., st.: Malá Zastavení č.26, Slovensko 1918-1922, Filatelie 6.2006.
- [6] Tekel, J.: Činnost Polnej a Kuriérnej Pošty na Území ČSR v r.1918-1920, Fil. State c.3, Bratislava 1982.
- [7] Beneš, F., st.: Malá Zastavení č.33, Podkarpatská Rus (10), Filatelie 1/2007.
- [8] Gebauer, P. - Tekel, J.: České a Slovenské Poštovny, M-R 2005.
- [9] Vondráček, K.: Čs-Maďarská Válka o Slovensko r.1918-19, Sborník "Vpád Maďarských Bolševikov na Slovensko v r.1919", J. Zimák, Trnava 1938.
- [10] Kol.: Vojenské Dějiny Československa, II. Díl, Naše Vojsko, Praha 1987.
- [11] Klimek, A.: Jak se Dělal Mír v r.1919, Slovo k Historii č.19, Melantrich, Praha 1989.
- [12] Obert, J.: Změny Hranic Slovenska a Podkarpatskej Rusi, Fil. Statě č.27, Bratislava 1989.
- [13] Kol.: Monografia Česko-Slovenských Známok, 15.díl, Bratislava 1994.
- [14] Tomášek, D.: Nevyhlášená Válka, Epoque, s.r.o., 2005.

Briefly about the author:

Karel Mezera (1946), graduate of the Academy of Music in oboe, mostly active as a jazz musician. Specializes in philatelic documentation for the years 1918-1920 and also publishes on this theme.

[Ed. Note: *The Specialist* is pleased to reprint this article, which first appeared in *FILATELIE* 11/2007 and 12/2007, with the permission of the editor and author.]



PARTICIPATE IN A VIRTUAL AUCTION

(Continued from Page 1)

As most of you know philately was a very popular hobby in Czechoslovakia, as it continues to be in the Czech and Slovak Republics. What the arrival of public auctions meant for serious collectors in that country, as well as for collectors elsewhere, is the greater availability of philatelic material and a competitive pricing system. Collectors wishing to buy or sell had only to pay appropriate taxes since few other restrictions existed. Quite a number of auctions started up; some met with much success and are still active, while others dropped by the wayside. To my knowledge, only one of those auction houses deals exclusively in Czechoslovak-related philately. The owner of this house has been very supportive of our Society over the years and many of you know him from his many trips to the United States or your visits to Prague.

It all started in 1996 when Jiří Majer and Jaroslav Thraumb, both collector-dealers, had the opportunity to buy a very large collection of Czechoslovakia. Their intention was to break it up and offer the lots thus formed to several active auction houses. However, word quickly spread among the philatelic community that the collection was in play and collectors began to contact Majer and Thraumb asking to buy specific items from the collection. The positive interest in the collection made them reconsider how they would handle their investment. They decided they

would organize an auction themselves. Why turn over part of the profits to others, they reasoned. The result was their first and very successful auction on March 1, 1997.

In the Fall of 1996 Jiří Majer, Henry Hahn, and I brainstormed over lunch what needed to be done to make the upcoming auction as accessible as possible to American and other English speaking collectors. At that time there were still currency exchange complications and neither Majer or Thraumb believed their knowledge of English was adequate to service non-Czech/Slovak speakers. The goal was to provide customers with the best possible service. I agreed to find solutions to anticipated problems and to get the system started, but insisted I would handle only the start-up and then pass the operation off to someone else. Little did I know.

Majer Auctions (Jaroslav Thraumb left the firm in 2002 to take over his father's stamp shop) has been quite successful by providing services and/or conditions which were not available from other firms. They offer sellers payment within 4 business days after the auction, an outstanding full color catalog, lower commissions to both sellers and buyers, and free phone bidding, for example. The latest Majer Auctions is to introduce **a new, additional method of bidding – real time on-line bidding.**

On-line bidders will be able to participate directly in the auction floor activities while remaining in the comfort of their own homes. All the bidder will have to do is log in, register to receive a bidder's number and bid directly on his computer keyboard. Majer Auctions has been preparing for real time on-line bidding for quite some time. They examined a number of computer on-line auction programs and found all of them lacking. So they commissioned a program to meet their specifications. The goal is a program which will be easy to use, not delay the bidding, and hopefully give the on-line bidder the sense, if not actually being at the auction, at least of directly participating in it. It is also designed to remove the frustrations of mail bidders who missed lots by just one bid only because the winner was able to bid during the auction and they were not.

But as with all computer programs, this one too has to be tested to insure any bugs it may have will be successfully found and removed. Testing is going on now and the final test will be the June 26th Majer Auction. It will be limited to postal history material, there will be fewer lots than usual, and only 60 lots will be auctioned each hour. Times when these lots will be auctioned are listed in the catalog. All this is designed to test the program under realistic conditions. Final rules and instructions on registering for on-line bidding will be posted June 14, 2010 on www.czechstamp.com and will be accompanied by a demo version of the program on which to practice. The catalog can also be found at this site.

Of course mail, e-mail, and phone bidding will remain as usual. By the time you read this all regular bidders in Majer Auctions will have received their catalog for the June 26 sale. For those members who have never bid or have not participated in these auctions in a long time, a few catalogs are still available by contacting me by mail (8602 Ewing Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817-3846) or e-mail (sibpost@verizon.net). Here is your opportunity to try on-line bidding in real time and also to acquire some first rate Czechoslovak material for your collection.

BOUND VOLUME SALE
by Savoy Horvath

We have received a significant number of bound volumes of the *Specialist* from the estate of our former member, Jane Sterba. They are now available to other members, and all proceeds will go to the Society.

Each of the following is available as a bound volume of a single year's issues at \$15 each, postpaid:

1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1977.

There is a double-year 1978/79 available for \$20.

Contact information is on the back cover of this issue.



Book Review(s)

**BOHEMIA & MORAVIA:
A COLLECTOR'S NOTEBOOK 2009
CPSGB Monograph #19**

As has been my experience with several other monographs published by the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, this is a tremendously valuable addition to the literature and reference resources for Czechoslovak philately.

The intent of this monograph, as stated in the Preface, is "to cover several aspects of the Protectorate's philately". It succeeds beautifully in achieving this goal of being a broad survey of the subject.

Good historical background to Germany's occupying Czechoslovakia and creating the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (B&M) is presented, as is worthwhile general information on B&M stamp issues and production.

Many of the generally collected areas of B&M philately are nicely covered with sufficient detail both for those exploring B&M philately as a new area and for the more experienced collector. I found much worthwhile information, expanding my knowledge in several areas. These include several topics of specific interest:

- a) Hitler's visit to Prague and Brno in March, 1939
- b) Anniversaries of the Protectorate
- c) German postal services (field, SS, Dienstpost, etc.)
- d) Centenary of the Penny Black
- e) Postal rates (surface rates only)
- f) List of B&M post offices (in both Czech and German city names)

The one general area not covered in the monograph that may be of interest to a wider spectrum of B&M collectors is special postmarks, of which over 115 are cataloged. However, this is not a major problem because this information is readily available in POFIS (Czech) and in Hamann (German).

I highly recommend this monograph. Anyone interested in World War II Czechoslovak philately will find this a valuable addition to their library. I expect the pages in this copy to be well worn in short order.

Phil Rhoades

Upon reading the Collectors Notebook, I found it quite informative in historical background. Each section in the notebook contained additional information and illustrations for the area covered and will be of help to the specialist or the novice. Section 17 -- which covers an update on postal rates -- is well needed by cover collectors.

I would recommend adding this Monograph No. 19 to your library.
 R. F. Koschalk



Philatelic News and Views

1. From *The Prague Post*, Apr 28 - May 4, quoting Radio Prague of April 27:

-- The postal service has updated its stamps. Stamps will be marked with letters denoting their different categories. The letter A will denote deliveries within the Czech Republic; the letter E those within Europe, and international deliveries will bear the letter Z. Stamps will also be self-adhesive, and the rule under which no living person other than the president can be featured is set to be abolished.

2. From *The Prague Post*, March 3-9, 2010, by František Bouc:

-- The Czech Olympic team made history at the Vancouver Olympics, which ended Feb. 28.

The Czechs won two gold medals and four bronze medals, making it the most successful Winter Olympics in Czech history. Never before had the Czech team won more medals in a single Winter Games, nor had a single athlete won more than one gold medal at a Winter Olympics.

Speed-skater Martina Sáblíková has become, at age 22, the most successful Czech athlete in the history of the Winter Olympics, taking home two gold medals and one bronze. Sáblíková completed her impressive Olympic run Feb. 24 after winning the 5,000 meters, a race she has lost only once in the past four years. A strong performance by Germany's Stephanie Beckert required Sáblíková to give it her all. Coach Petr Novák said he gave Sáblíková incorrect information about her times during the race.

"I was giving her slightly better times than she was reaching in order to prevent her from having doubts whether she could be as fast as Beckert," Novák said.

In the end, Sáblíková was 0.49 seconds faster than Beckert.

Sáblíková became the first Czech Olympian in 14 years to win two gold medals at a single games. (Canoelist Martin Doktor won two gold medals in the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games.) And she has become the first Czech in 42 years to walk away from a single games with three medals under her belt. (Gymnast Věra Čáslavská won six medals, including four gold and two silver, at the 1968 Summer Games in Mexico City.)

Letters to the Editor

1. Lou:

Thank you for turning me onto George Srb as a stamp trading partner in Slovakia! We've worked out a nice trading arrangement, and the correspondence is fun too.

Now, I'm getting all the new issues used and once my Scott pages catch up my collection will be even better!

Myron (Kavalgian)

2. Dear Mr. Svoboda:

Thank you very much for the latest exchange copy of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, which I received today. I must say, however, that I was both appalled and saddened by the lead article, which consistently mistranslates the area of the northeastern Austro-Hungarian Empire that would become Carpatho-Ukraine as Subcarpathian Russia! There never were any significant populations of Russians in either the Austrian or Hungarian halves of the Empire.

Of the dozen or so recognized nationalities in the Empire, the one in the northeastern area was referred to as Ruthenian. These people identified themselves as Rusyny (Rusyns, sometimes also spelled Rusins). Labeling them as Russians is totally inaccurate.

In the Austrian half of the Empire, the Rusyny switched their self identification to Ukrainian during the decades before World War I The Austrian Government also began to refer to these citizens as Ukrainians in the years before the war. In the Hungarian part, this switch-over occurred more slowly, but nonetheless did occur . . .

...

I hope that you can correct the misidentification for the second part of this article (switching Russian(s) to Rusyn(s)) . . .

Dr. Ingerť Kuzych, Vice President
Ukrainian Philatelic & Numismatic Society

[*Ed. Note: My apologies to you and the Ukrainian Phil. & Num. Society. I looked up Podkarpatské Rus, did not find it translated as a unit, so I looked up each part separately and found Podkarpatské = subcarpathian, Rus = Russian or Russia. My mistake. I will of course make the necessary correction for the second part of the article.*]

3. Hi Lou:

What a great article by Savoy in the Winter issue (p17)[*JUDr. Emil Hácha, 3rd Czech President*]. I never knew about the erstwhile "Second Republic" and often wondered why the hyphenated name "česko-slovensko" suddenly appeared on some of the stamps from 1939. Another mystery cleared up for me thanks to Savoy.

It does seem rather sad that the man who presided over that terrible time in Czechoslovakia's history has such a strikingly anti-onomatopoeic name: "Dr. Ha-Ha".

Mark Wilson

[Ed. Note: The hyphenated name on the stamps came about because of the re-birth and new-found freedom of nationalism among the Slovak, Hungarian, and Polish speaking elements of the Czechoslovak populace. Remember, the Germans of the Sudetenland areas had already been largely muscling their way around into Czechoslovakia's business since the latter part of 1938 (after the Munich Accord). The Slovaks, Hungarians, and Poles saw this as an opportunity to get their own way on some issues -- if not to get their independence. As a concession -- while three stamps of 1939 were being designed -- the Czechs agreed to let the Slovaks have their own parliament and to make the former Czechoslovak Republic into a federated republic -- thus the hyphenated name. Also, the Hungarians and Poles took the opportunity to seize portions of Czechoslovakia that abutted their borders.]

4. Halo, Ludvík:

Many greetings after a long time. With coming Spring, even Slovak P.O. came to life with issuing beautifully [sic] engraved souv. sheet which I am sending you in a XL cover (Fig. 1. See the *New Issues* column for more details on this stamp.). Not too many like that are to be had.

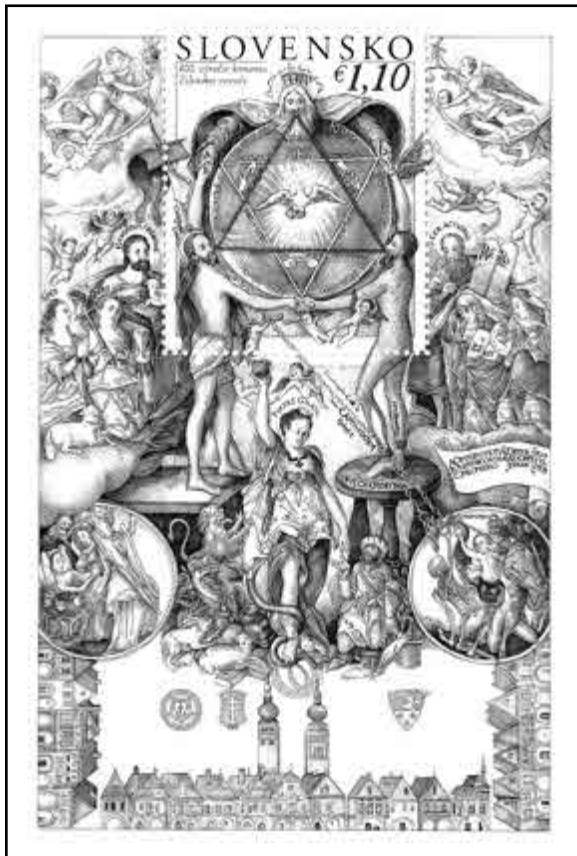


Fig. 1

A week ago was Hodža stamp issued (See the *New Issues* column for more details on this stamp. See the article on Hodža elsewhere in this issue.), next edition will be in May.

It has been a long winter with heaps of snow but now -- finally -- grass is green, violets and other wildflowers are blooming, huge V- formations of cranes are flying north (I wonder where) and day before yesterday first swallows arrived and are rebuilding their nests (we have four on the house). Most of the trails in the meadows and forest are still muddy, but in a week or so it will be dry and we can go mushroom hunting.

Enjoy the beauty of spring -- with regards

George (Srb)

SAGA OF PATRIOTISM, EXILE TO END IN SLOVAK CEMETERY

by Rick Hepp and Ron Grossman
contr. by Savoy Horvath

(Here is an) article from the Chicago Tribune on the #3 man in 1918-1938 ČSR government, Milan Hodža, former prime minister. I'll bet Slovakia will commemorate him with at least a S(ouvenir) S(heet). [*In fact that is almost exactly what was just done -- see the New Issues column of this issue. Savoy sent me this article about two years ago.*]

“Barred by war and politics from a country he helped found, Milan Hodza will be given his third funeral on Monday in a Northwest Side church and then be taken home to Slovakia for the burial he had wished for decades ago.

The former Czechoslovakian prime minister had lain for more than half a century in Bohemian National Cemetery in Chicago, a modest headstone inscribed in Slovak as his memorial.

Now Hodza, a man who was written out of his country's history books, is to be brought home, and honored. His remains, disinterred last week, will be escorted to Slovakia and reburied, with pomp and circumstance, in the national cemetery.

On Monday dignitaries will sit alongside members of Chicago's Slovak community in Trinity Slovak Lutheran Church on North La Crosse Avenue to honor Hodza, once eulogized as the “most interesting and picturesque figure in Slovakian history.”

It marks the third time Hodza's funeral will be handled by John Zidek & Son Funeral Home, which held his wake in 1944, the year of his death, and 1948, when political conditions made it impossible for his body to be returned to Czechoslovakia.

His reburial this month brings an end to the long story of a man whose destiny was shaped by the political tides of the 20th Century.

“He was the Slovak version of George Washington,” said funeral director Ladimir C. Zidek, who was a teenager when his father and grandfather held Hodza's earlier funeral.

Hodza was one of three men who in 1918 helped the Czechs and Slovaks achieve their thousand-year-old dream of a national homeland. He also saw the country fall victim to Nazi aggression. Hodza, who was the nation's last independent prime minister, fled Czechoslovakia in 1938 just ahead of Hitler's invading forces.

After World War II, Czechoslovakia fell into the Soviet Union's sphere of control, and Hodza and other key politicians were forcibly erased from the country's memory for four decades of communist rule.

But since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1989 and the division of Czechoslovakia into two countries four years later, the Slovak government has been revising the schools' history curriculum, said Viera Viskupova, press secretary for the Slovak Embassy in Washington.

Bookstore and libraries are stocked with new biographies and encyclopedias, and a Slovakian television crew will cover the return of Hodza's remains. The footage will be coupled with a documentary on his life.

“You are seeing a reawakening or reassessment of historical situations in Slovakia and the Czech Republic,” said Dave Muhlena of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. “Communists controlled all the media and had a very good propaganda machine, so a lot of this information was suppressed. Now they are getting in touch with their unvarnished history.”

Hodza, who was born in 1878, served in the Czechoslovakian Cabinet several times after helping form the country’s first government in the wake of World War I.

He became prime minister in 1935 and espoused the notion of a united Central Europe, Viskupova said. Although Western Europe was highly industrialized, countries between the Baltic and Black Seas consisted mainly of farmland, and Hodza reasoned a federation could leverage that strength economically.

“He was very progressive,” she said. “He fought for a federal structure similar to the European Union nowadays.”

But with the rise of Nazism in nearby Germany, Czechoslovakia got caught up in World War II. Determined to avoid a bloody repeat of World War I, Britain and France tried appeasing the German dictator, allowing him to annex the Sudetenland, a German-speaking region on Czechoslovakia’s northern border.

Soon the entire country fell under Nazi control and its government fled abroad. When Hodza died of colon cancer in Florida on June 27, 1944, his wife, who was living in Chicago, placed his body in a Rosehill Cemetery mausoleum until it could be sent home.

His first funeral at Zion Lutheran Church was lavish, attended by exiled Czechoslovakian dignitaries and hundreds of immigrants living in the thriving Czech and Slovak communities on the Southwest Side and West Side. It took five cars to transport the flowers from the funeral home to the church.

Yet the mood was upbeat, with expectations that Hodza’s body soon could return home.

“It was a holding situation; everybody knew it,” Zidek said. “Then it all collapsed.”

In 1948, the country fell under the control of the Communist Party, which declared Hodza, a fervent anticommunist, *persona non grata*. Hodza was buried, with a second funeral, in Bohemian National Cemetery.

“This was a man that was revered by the Czechoslovakian community” in Chicago, said Zidek. “That chapel was wall-to-wall humanity, and flowers were lined along all the walls.”

Now the funeral home is making the arrangements for its third Hodza funeral

....

For Ladislaus Bolchazy, a historian and publisher of Slavic books, the homecoming is bittersweet, bringing out competing emotional loyalties. “As a Slovak-American, I’d rather had Hodza in America,” he said.

The news also reminds Stefan Kopecky, who is active in Czechoslovakian fraternal organizations, that the Slovak community in Chicago, like all immigrant groups, is dispersing. Places like Bohemian National Cemetery no longer are a focus, he said. This year on Memorial Day, no flowers were placed on Hodza’s grave.

“It is a good thing he is going back to Slovakia.” Kopecky said. “He would be lost here.”

[Ed. Note: The Specialist is please to reprint this article from the CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Saturday, June 22, 2002.]

ADVERTISEMENT

SELL - SWAP - WANT

WANTED: POFIS Czechoslovak Stationery & Postcard Catalog, Vol. 1, any year.
Thanks, Brent Hampton. Phone: 662-832-1116; e-mail:
brenthampton@bellsouth.net

*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.*

ERRATA

-- In the article "The Annexation of Subcarpathian Russia to Czechoslovakia During 1918-1920 (Part 1)", I would like to point out that the term "Podkarpatská Rus" was erroneously translated in the title and throughout the article as "Subcarpathian Russia", when it should have been "Subcarpathian Rus", and "Rusyns" rather than "Russians". "Russians" was entirely the wrong term to be used here.

ADVERTISEMENT

WANTED:

Trading partner(s) in Slovakia. Trade mint USA for used Slovak stamps, used souvenir sheets, commercial/philatelic covers, dollar/koruna basis. Myron Kavalgian, 141 Boston Post Rd, Old Lyme, CT 06371-1303, USA. Kavalgian@att.net

New Issues

**CZECH REPUBLIC
by G.M. van Zanten**

1. On March 10, 2010, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued a 10 Kč stamp to commemorate Easter traditions (Fig. 1). The stamp shows three young men with caroller's whips and a basket of Easter eggs on the way to carol. Easter is the annual celebration of the mystery of life reborn. It is the major Christian holiday related to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christian Easter is a



Fig. 1

moveable feast, meaning it is not fixed in relation to the civil calendar. The First Council of Nicaea (325) established the date of Easter as the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal equinox. The date of Easter therefore varies between March 22 and April 25. Relatively newer elements such as the Easter Bunny and Easter egg, symbols of a new life, have become part of the holiday's modern celebrations, often celebrated by Christians and non-Christians alike. In the Czech

Republic, a tradition of spanking or whipping is carried out on Easter Monday. In the morning, men spank women with a special handmade whip called a "pomlázka" in order to keep the women's health and beauty during the whole next year. The spanking is very popular mainly in the countryside or smaller towns. The habit slightly varies across the country. In some parts in Eastern Moravia, men throw cold water on women. All these habits have a central theme: to celebrate the coming spring and to show interest in the spanked or watered woman. Traditionally, the spanked woman gave a colored egg called a "kraslice", today replaced with Easter chocolate bunnies or eggs. Elderly men prefer a glass of spirits. The stamp was designed by Jindrich Kovařík, engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in blue, yellow, and red in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in green shows a stylistic picture of Easter eggs in a basket with some placed in front of it (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2

2. On March 10, 2010, the Ministry issued a commemorative souvenir sheet with one stamp having a denomination of 43 Kč (Fig. 3). The souvenir sheet was issued for the 200th anniversary of the birth of our most important romantic writer Karel Hynek Mácha. The stamp shows Mácha wearing a large hat, and in the background, a rock and a luminous full moon. On the souvenir sheet is depicted the so-called Mácha's region -- the area around the Bezdez and Kokorín castles, Doksy, Dubá, and Mácha's Lake. Born in Prague in 1810, K.H. Mácha was the leading Czech romantic



Fig. 3

author. His lyrical epic poem *Máj* (May) is one of the most beautiful works of Czech literature. Mácha's father and his brother Michal worked in a mill. One of Mácha's teachers at secondary school was Josef Jungmann. Mácha went on to study law at Prague University; during that time he also became involved in theater and joined the amateur company led by Josef Kajetán Tyl. After his studies he was a legal assistant in a solicitor's office in Litoměřice. He loved visiting old and ruined castles where he often stayed overnight. In a letter written to a friend of his after a night spent at the castle Houska, he described a terrifying dream during which he descended into a deep hole at the castle and met demonic beings. During his Prague studies he fell in love with Marinka Štichová. After her premature death his works became excessively tragic. After some time he met Eleonora Šomková with whom he had a son out of wedlock (1836). As soon as he learned about his newborn son, he set out for Prague. But he never arrived there. Already at the beginning of his journey he came across a fire in Litoměřice, during the extinguishing of which he caught a chill and two days later he was struck with diarrhea. His condition quickly worsened, he started vomiting, and died in the early hours of November 6, the exact day he was supposed to marry Eleonora Šomková. Due to a suspicion of cholera, however, the date of death was moved

back a day to November 5 so the funeral could be held a day earlier. The cause of Mácha's unexplained death remains vague, though it still seems unlikely that he died as a result of a chill he caught while fighting the fire. More likely he was infected by drinking water intended for fighting the fire. This mystery has stayed hushed up, as well as the appearance of this romantic poet, since not even one portrait of him has survived. To the following generations, he was only described by words, and by the piece of information that he sat as a model for painter Mašek's picture of John the Baptist. [Also, see Gerald's article "The Mácha Region and Karel Hynek Mácha", in the November/ December 2002 issue, pg15..] The



Fig. 4

souvenir sheet and stamp were designed by Jan Kavan, engraved by Václav Fajt, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by recess print from flat plates in black combined by colored offset in light blue, light green, yellow and gray. A FDC in green-brown shows a stylized depiction of a flock of geese and a nest of snakes -- as a symbol of the animals occurring in the environs of the Mácha region (Fig. 4).

3. On March 24, 2010, the Ministry issued an extraordinary commemorative stamp entitled "Gold Medals of the XXIst Winter Olympic Games" (Fig. 5). The 10 Kč stamp depicts a girl's hands holding a gold medal. Over them there is an oblique inscription in Czech stating MARTINA SÁBLÍKOVÁ, GOLD MEDALS. The stamp was issued on the occasion of the Czech success in the XXIst Winter Olympic Games which



Fig. 5

took place in February in Vancouver, Canada. Our speed-skater Martina Sáblíková succeeded -- as the first sportswoman in the history of the Czech Republic -- to win two gold and one bronze medal. It is a phenomenal success of our young representative who could, owing to her young age, repeat a similar triumph at other winter Olympic Games. [See also the *Philatelic News and Views* column of this issue for more information on this accomplishment.] The stamp was designed by Zdeněk Netopil and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset in blue, yellow, red, and black in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in blue depicts a stylized picture of an identical image of a speed-skater from the issue “XXIst Winter Olympic Games, Vancouver 2010” that came out February 10, 2010 (Fig. 6).

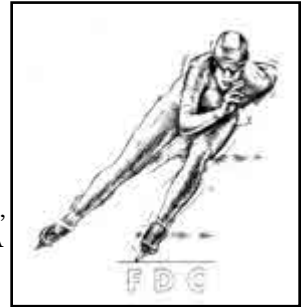


Fig. 6

4. On April 14, 2010, the Ministry issued a 24 Kč commemorative stamp honoring “Traveler Enrique Stanko Vráz (1860-1932)” (Fig. 7). On the stamp is depicted Enrique Stanko Vráz and behind him a Japanese landscape with mountains covered with snow in the background. E.S. Vráz was a Czech traveler and photographer. His origin is shrouded in a light veil of secrecy. According to some sources, he was born in Bulgaria. The date of birth, given by him, was February 18, occasionally also April 8. Some sources state his father was a Russian officer or even diplomat; his mother was a Czech. There are some speculations that the name Enrique Stanko Vráz might be only a pseudonym used by a nobleman. Other historians challenge all of these theories -- his origin is therefore somewhat mysterious. The



Fig. 7

only thing which is certain is that Vráz was a keen traveler. During his travels across Africa, South and North Americas, Japan and South-East Asia he gathered an extraordinary collection of natural exhibits, including approximately 15,000 insects, 1,200 birds, 600 mammals, and a good deal of other species. Some of them were purchased by the British Governor who exhibited them in Dublin. A large part of the collection was donated by Vráz to the National Museum in Prague in 1885. He moved to Prague for a short time in 1907 but had to return back to the United States because of a lack of money. As an authorized representative of the Prague’s National Council, he set up its American branch, and gradually became involved in politics. He helped to organize the Czech-American life and was a member of the future President Wilson’s election team. At that successful period of time he began suffering from heart problems, and in 1920 he lost one of his hands because of cancer. He and his wife and daughter returned to Prague in 1921 for the rest of his life. He failed to secure a position in both the National Museum and Náprstek’s Museum, and his only income came from lectures and publications. The difficult situation further intensified his heavy depression. He died, aged 72,

on February 20, 1932. The stamp was designed by Vladimír Novák, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in blue, violet, and green in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in black shows a drawing of a Japanese mask (Fig. 8).



Fig. 8

5. On April 14, 2010, the Ministry issued a set of two commemorative stamps with the theme of Transcaucasian Carpets. The stamps were designed and engraved by Václav Fajt, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by recess print from flat plates in black combined with multicolored offset in red, blue, and yellow in printing sheets of 4 pieces.

-- 21 Kč: Kashim Ushag

carpet, Transcaucasia, Nagomo-Karabakh, 19th century, hand-woven, wool, 191 x 148 cm, National Museum, Náprstek's Museum of Asian, African, and American Cultures (Fig. 9). Kasim ushags are classified both by professional and lay public as the so-called karabakhs, or karabakh carpets. They came from Transcaucasia, a region defined in terms of ethnography as the area of today's Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Nagomo-Karabakh, a mountainous region in the West Azerbaijan close to the Armenian border, is still



Fig. 9

the subject of a prolonged dispute between these countries. The names of individual types of karabakhs, such as chndzoresk/chondzorek/kazak with belts of clouds, celaberd/eagle kazak/sunburst kazak, kasim ushag, mostly refer to the names of local villages where they used to be woven. However, in case of Kasim ushags the situation is not so clear as with the two former types. Some experts and collectors refer to two villages in the Nagomo-Karabakh; Kasym Ushagy (Kurdish provenance) and Kazanbulak (Armenian provenance). The pattern of kasim ushags remained virtually unchanged, they often reveal Armenian signs. Like all Transcaucasian carpets, kasim ushags are characterized by bright colors, with prevalent red, blue, yellow and green, the typical Karabakh flower (crab) border and large geometric designs in the central field. The carpet from Náprstek's Museum is remarkable for a narrow belt in the upper part of the central field that seems to have been woven after completion of the entire pattern. The origin of karabakh carpets is often connected with the so-called dragon carpets,



Fig. 10

woven in the Nagomo-Karabakh region since the 17th century. A FDC in blue shows a Chndzoresk Carpet (Fig. 10).

-- 24 Kč: Celaberd carpet, South Transcaucasia, Karabakh, mid-19th century, hand-woven, wool, 194 x 146 cm, National Gallery in Prague (Fig. 11). Celaberd (also Cheleberd) carpets are the best known carpets from Karabakh, a mountainous region in south Transcaucasia. This type of woven carpet, called according to a local village, is also known to collectors under its older name, eagle kazak, due to an earlier interpretation of the main symbol, the two-headed eagle woven in the large central radial design. English literature also mentions the poetic name sunburst kazak, referring to a sunbeam bursting through the clouds.



Fig. 11

The motif, continued and further developed in the radial medallion of celaberd carpets, is likely to have originated in the 17th or 18th century as a part of the complicated pattern of the so-called dragon carpets. Like kasim ushags and other types of rug patterns, celaberds are still classified as dragon carpets in Transcaucasia. The form of celaberds has developed in the course of time. The oldest ones have an almost square format, a single dominant medallion and extraordinarily impressive bright colors. The celaberd of the National Gallery in Prague is one of these few carpets. Its wonderfully balanced design is emphasized with bright, excellently preserved colors: the shining red of the ground is counter-

balanced with calmer changing shades of green and blue, blue, and yellow.

The carpet was bought in 1886 by the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague from a renowned Viennese art dealer Theodor Graf for 55 florins. In 1961 it was transferred to the Oriental Art Collection of the National Gallery in Prague, the present custodian of more than two hundred oriental carpets, mostly kilims and other Transcaucasian carpets. A FDC in red-brown features a detail of the camel caravan from the border of a late 19th century Karabakh chadda carpet-curtain (Fig. 12).

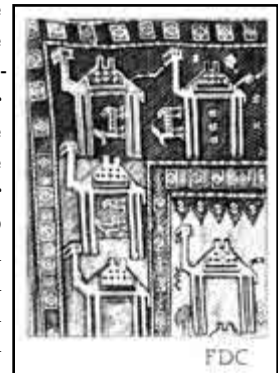


Fig. 12

6. On April 28, 2010, the Ministry issued a self-adhesive stamp booklet with definitive postage stamps from the edition of the original Czech comic book Čtyřlístek (the four-leaf-clover)(Fig. 13). The first theme of the stamp booklet is "Fifinka"(Fig. 14). On the stamp is depicted Fifinka, the only "girl" in Čtyřlístek. As a good housewife she is reading in a cookbook, and on the table before her is a cup of white coffee and a cake. The stories of Čtyřlístek are still issued for more



Fig. 13



Fig. 14

than an incredible 40 years. Together with the protagonists of Čtyřlístek the fourth generation of readers already goes through their adventures. Fifinka is the first small figure on a stamp, and she will be followed on stamps by the “boys” from Čtyřlístek: Bobík, Myšpulín, and Pinda. The stamp was designed by the illustrator Jaroslav Němeček, who is also the creator of the cult comic book series Čtyřlístek. The stamp was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset in colors and shades of blue, pink, yellow, and black in self-adhesive definitive stamp booklets of 10 pieces. On the left inner page of the booklet between a short text from the designer and the small figures of Čtyřlístek is placed a hologram serving as a protective



Fig. 15

element. A FDC in multicolored offset in shades of blue, green, red and black was issued -- exceptional with a definitive postage stamp -- the cachet of which is the complete foursome of small figures of Čtyřlístek with a silhouette of their small house in Třeskopský and of the castle Bezzub in the background (Fig. 15). *** With the issuance of this definitive stamp booklet, the reimbursement of the price of service by postage stamps comes to a significant change. The Czech Post issues -- for the first time in the history of postal services in our territory -- a so-called literal stamp with a face value represented by the letter "A". The letter "A" corresponds to the price of an ordinary domestic letter -- standard to 50g in accordance to the price list of basic postal services in the current version -- at present amounting to 10 Kč. Literal stamps will have the character of being permanently valid definitive postage stamps. They will be sold as complete stamp booklets only, not as single stamps. ***

7. On May 5, 2010, the Ministry issued a 17 Kč commemorative stamp entitled Exhibition "Prague Castle in the Art of Postage Stamp" (Fig. 16). The stamp shows a panorama of Charles Bridge and Prague Castle as viewed from Novotný Footbridge. Prague Castle, a Czech symbol of the past as well as



Fig. 16

present times, inspired a number of works of art, both local and foreign. It also remains a rich treasury of motifs used by stamp designers. The representative exhibition Prague Castle in the Art of Postage Stamp will present the more than 90 years' old tradition of Czech stamp design connected with artifacts from the Prague Castle collections. Visitors can follow the history of postage stamps and their design, starting from original art designs, through outline drawings, to engraved versions and printing plates. The exhibition offers a possibility to compare pieces of art used as models for the demanding transposition into a

tiny-format steel engraving. Alfons Mucha, Max Švabinský, Jan C. Vondrouš, Cyril Bouda, Karel Svolinský, Jiří A. Švengsbír, Josef Liesler, Josef Herčík, Oldřich Kulhánek: these and many other graphic designers drew their inspiration from Prague Castle, not only in their own creation but also in stamp design. The dominant feature in the non-standard panoramic format of the postage stamp is the largest castle area in the world, Prague Castle, viewed from Novotny Footbridge. The stamp in arranged print sheet accompanies the exhibition, held in the Teresian Wing in the Old Royal Palace from May 13 to August 1, 2010 (with potential extension to October 28), as a symbolic souvenir. The stamp was designed by Jan Kavan, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by the Post Printing



Fig. 17

House in Prague by recess print from flat plates in brown-red in arranged printing sheets of 4 pieces. In the middle of the arranged printing sheet is the inscription

PRAGUE CASTLE IN THE ART OF POSTAGE STAMP in Czech and English. Under these inscriptions are placed logos of the Czech Post, of the Postal Museum, and of the Prague Castle Administration. A FDC in black shows a stylistic drawing of the heraldic lion by Vincent Makovský (Fig. 17).

8. On May 5, 2010, the Ministry issued a 17 Kč commemorative stamp in the EUROPA series entitled Children's Book, Karel Čapek -- Dášeňka (Fig. 18). On the stamp are depicted doggies which represent the growth of Dášeňka from a puppy to an adult dog. This year's central theme for the annual EUROPA issue, announced by the Association of European Public Postal Operators PostEurop, is Children's Book. Dášeňka Aneb Život Štěněte (Dashenka, or the Life of a Puppy) by Karel Čapek is one of the best known and most popular Czech books, not only for children. Karel Čapek was born in Malé Svatoňovice. His brother, Josef Čapek, was a famous



Fig. 18

write, painter and photographer. Dashenka is an example of their frequent cooperation. After his studies, Karel worked as a tutor to the son of Count Lažanský, but soon took the position of a journalist, editing several newspapers: Národní Listy, Nebojsa, Lidové Noviny. He left the latter in 1921 as a protest against the sacking of his brother Josef by the paper's board. For the next two years he was a dramaturg at the Vinohradské Theater. He was the first president of the Czech PEN Club in 1925-1933. He married his long-time friend, Olga Scheinpflugová, almost at the end of his life. After 1938 he became the target of political attacks. He spent the last years of his life in Stará Huť by Dobříš where he is still commemorated by a monument. He died of pneumonia, several months before his planned arrest by the Gestapo. Dashenka, or the Life of a Puppy is a book more than 70 years old. Iris, Dashenka's mother, was a wire-haired terrier living with Čapek. The book describes Dashinka's birth and early life until the day when she is carried away by her new owners, and a number of other stories (Stories for Dashenka, On Dogs' Habits, On People, etc.). The stories are accompanied by photographs of Dashenka, made by Josef Čapek. Karel Čapek wrote a large number of books, the major ones including War with the Newts, R.U.R., The White Disease, Krakatit, etc. The stamp was designed by Václav Kučera and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset in colors and shades of red, blue, and black in printing sheets of 6 pieces. A FDC in black shows a profile drawing of a sitting dog (Fig. 19).

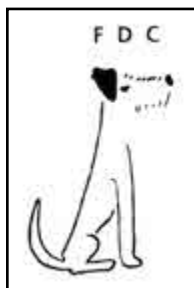


Fig. 19

9. On March 12, 2010, the Ministry of Transport, Posts, and Telecommunications issued a 0.70 € commemorative stamp honoring Matthew Czak of Trenčín (Matuš

SLOVAKIA

by Gerald M. van Zanten

9. On March 12, 2010, the Ministry of Transport, Posts, and Telecommunications issued a 0.70 € commemorative stamp honoring Matthew Czak of Trenčín (Matuš



Fig. 20

Čák Trenčianský)(1260-1321)(Fig. 20). The uncrowned king of Upper Hungary (today's Slovakia) Matthew Czak was born in about 1260. His father Peter and his uncle Matthews held the office of Marshall Palatine during the reign of the incompetent king Ladislav IV. Cuman, and as a result, they were obtaining large properties in south-western Slovakia. The young Matthew Czak became their sole heir. In the early 1290's he acted as a loyal courtier of Andrew III who appointed him a Palatine in 1296. However, shortly after, Matthew seized the King's castle Trenčín under unclear circumstances and he rebuilt it to his

residence. At the end of the 13th century, extending of his possessions was beyond control. Many nobles took service with him willingly (but also under pressure). In the Premysl-Anjou fight for a succession he first supported the Czech crown prince Wenceslas, who in 1302 bestowed him with counties Nitra and Trenčín. Toward the end of the following year he changed sides and became a supporter of Charles Robert, but despite his several promises he never recognized him as his king in public. In spite of this, Charles Robert appointed him a palatine in 1309 and at the beginning of the following year also treasurer (the person in charge of royal income). As Matthew Czak was visibly misusing these positions for his own benefit, the king



Fig. 21

deposed him from his office. In these times Matthew already acted as an independent ruler, and kept the same dignitaries as the king at his court in Trenčín. The bases of his power became a whole system of stone castles. He owned more than 60 stone castles, of which 50 were in the area of today's Slovakia. The status of Matthew was undermined to a certain extent by the loss of a part of his army in the Battle of Rozhanovce in 1312. However, in 1315 he managed to beat back the attack of the Czech king Jan Luxembourg on the castle of Holíč. Later, due to his older age, he was not developing any activities of a greater importance and determined Stephen Czech from the family of the Moravian Sternbergs as his heir. He died naturally on March 18, 1321

in Trenčín castle. The King's army took possession of all of his castles in stages. His contemporaries called his possessions "Terra Matthei" (The Land of Matthew). Its territorial scope corresponds almost precisely with the territory belonging to Pribina's Principate in Nitra. The stamp shows a stone engraving of the uncrowned king holding a short-sword; it was designed by Edita Balážová and Adrian Ferda; it was produced by the Poštovní Tiskárna Cenin Praha using offset in printing sheets of 35 pieces. A FDC shows a knight on horseback carrying a pendant (Fig. 21).

10. On March 30, 2010, the Ministry issued a souvenir sheet containing a 1.10 € commemorative stamp celebrating the 400th Anniversary of the Žilina Synod (Fig. 22, see the Letters to the Editor column for an illustration of the souvenir sheet).



Fig. 22

Ideas of religious Reformation had quickly spread in the 16th century also in our country. After the patriciate of Eastern Slovak royal towns and Medieval mining towns, the Hungarian nobility gradually inclined to Reformation and so at the beginning of the 17th century, a significant part of today's Slovakia territory was Protestant. At the Country council in 1609 Count Juraj Thurzo from Betlanovce (1567 - 1616) became the Hungarian Palatine, a follower of the reformation of Augsburg confession which he supported and efficiently promoted by means of his authority. An important milestone was the synod, convened for March 28-30, 1610 to Žilina under the patronage of the Palatine Thurzo. The Žilina Synod meant constitution and creation of separate church

organization of the Evangelical Church of Augsburg Confession. The church congregations represented there defined basic symbolic issues and adopted the Formula of Harmony. An important role in its preparation and wording of conclusions was played by Eliáš Láni, Bytca pastor and Thurzo's advisor who was appointed to be one of the first Evangelical superintendents. A unique authentic monument of those times is the Thurzo altar Speculum Justificationis dated in



Fig. 23

1611. It is a monumental wooden altar from the chapel at the Orava castle preserved today in the Evangelical church of Augsburg confession in Neepaly; it is extraordinary in its form and contents. The form of the altar unit with nine pictures is based on an older graphic model from the workshop of Jost Amman, a Nuremberg engraver and publisher, designed by the Evangelical theologian Caspar Melissander. Smaller panel paintings on fixed wings, in the dividing line and altar extension depict Bible scenes. Complicated composition of the spacious central painting, painted on canvas, is a visualization of the key symbolic questions. Presented motifs interpret topics of excusing the sinful man in front of God for having faith in the Protestant perception. The value of the Thurzo altar is extraordinary -- due to the challenging and unique ideas presented and due to its artistic quality which exceeds that of Protestant works of art of the 17th century in our country. Its iconography is a “pictorial expression of faith”. The stamp comes from a souvenir sheet and copies an altar painting by Jost Amman from the Orava Castle chapel, showing God, angels, a dove, and people. The souvenir sheet with stamp was designed by Dušan Kállay, engraved by Martin Činovský, and produced by the Poštovní Tiskárna Cenin Praha using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset. A FDC shows Count Juraj Thurzo (Fig. 23).

11. On April 16, 2010, the Ministry issued a 0.40 € stamp in the Personalities series honoring Milan Hodža (1878-1944)(Fig. 24). Dr. Milan Hodža (1878 Sučany



Fig. 24

- 1944 Clearwater, USA) was the most significant Slovak journalist, politician and political scientist, Czechoslovakian statesman of European importance of the first half of the 20th century. A son of a Slovak patriot, Evangelical priest O. Hodža and a nephew of Michal Miloslav Hodža. He obtained his university education by studying law, philosophy and history at universities in Budapest, Cluj and in Vienna. He had wide knowledge and actively spoke seven languages. He entered the political

scene as an already known journalist. He wrote for several newspapers, he founded and edited Slovenský Denník (Slovak Daily) on his own, and later Slovenský Týždenník (Slovak Weekly)(1903-1918). He continued in political and journalist work of L. Štúr. In 1905-1910 he acted as a member of the Hungarian parliament, stood against Hungarian nationalism, fought for civil rights and economic progress in co-operation with representatives of non-Hungarian nations (mainly Serbians, Croatians, and Rumanians). He got into high politics thanks to his contacts with the throne successor Franz Ferdinand and his attempts to federalize the empire. During World War I he became the leading figure of the so-called Vienna Group of Slovaks who started to cooperate with the Czech Resistance with the aim to build a common state. He participated on the Declaration of the Slovak Nation in Turčianský Sv. Martin in October 1918 and became a member of the Slovak National Council. After the formation of Czechoslovakia, he continued in his political activity with short breaks until September 1938 as one of the prominent pro-governmental agrarian politicians. He was the Minister for Unification of Laws twice, the Minister of Agriculture



Fig. 25

twice (1922-1926;1932-1935), the Minister of Education (1926-1929), and the Minister of Foreign Affairs (1935-1936). In 1935 he became the Prime Minister as the first Slovak and remained in this position until September 1936, when the government resigned. At the end of 1936 he went to exile (Switzerland, France, Great Britain, and the USA). In 1940 he founded the Slovak National Council in Paris. He spent the last years of his life in the USA (1941-1944), cooperated with American Slovaks on renewal of a democratic, nationally just Czecho-Slovakia, with equality of Slovaks and with a vision of a federation in Central Europe. He also worked here on his most significant political work called Federation in Central Europe, published in English in 1941. Historical and political studies and studies on political science were a part of his work. They were published in 7 volumes under the name Články, Reči a Štúdie. On June 27, 2002 his remains were transported to Slovakia and buried in the National Cemetery in Martin (*see an article in this issue from the Chicago Tribune on the funeral process.*) The stamp shows a portrait of Hodža, was designed by Vladislav Rostoka, and produced by Poštovní Tiskárna Cenin Praha using offset in sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC shows an earlier drawing of Hodža in a large letter H along with a copy of his signature (Fig. 25).

12. On May 4, 2010, the Ministry issued a 0.90 € commemorative stamp entitled EUROPA 2010: Children’s Books (Fig. 26). The phenomenon of illustration is an

integral part of children books, enriching the text with visual perception which is so attractive for the young reader. Slovak illustration has its reputation around the world. Albín Brunovský (1935-1997) belongs to its most important Slovak representatives. He was engaged especially in illustrations, graphic creation and painting. As the Head of Department of Graphics and Book Illustration at the VSVU (Academy of Fine Arts and Design) in Bratislava in 1967-1990, he brought up a strong generation of graphics and illustrators, among which the established ones in the field of illustrations are Dušan Kállay and Karol Ondreička. Brunovský belongs to the representatives of fantasy realism of the second half of the 20th century. Out of the large collection of 140 illustrated books, 46 are dedicated to children. Despite the fact that he illustrated most books in the 1960's, his most significant works come from the mid-1970's. Based on a long-term cooperation with the Slovak poet Lubomír Feldek, they made the fairy tale book called *Modrá Kniha Rozprávok* (1974)(Blue Book of Fairy Tales) which won a number of national and international awards for its excellent realization of literal artistic and graphic elements. This book is the source of illustration called *Meluzína Jozefína* which was chosen by the author of stamp graphic design, Daniel Brunovský, the son of the designer of the illustrations, to be representative work of Slovak illustration. Albín Brunovský never really illustrated books, he developed the illustrations in an independent style so they could also be treated as independent works of art. Typical features of his illustrations were fabulousness, absurdity, contact with the animal world, humorousness as well as reconstruction of their childhood experiences. Numerous motifs which Brunovský used when illustrating *Modrá Kniha Rozprávok* later became topics of more graphic cycles (e.g., *Dámy v Klobúku* (Ladies in Hats)(1981)). Brunovský's illustrations of literature for children and youth may therefore be considered a creative experiment having impact on graphics and painting -- on the one hand the trend to enrich the book's story with independent artistic themes not strictly connected with the text, and on the other the attempt to bring children's book illustrations more in line with adult styles. The stamp shows an illustration of the four winds blowing on a castle by Albín Brunovský, which was designed by Albín Brunovský, graphically arranged by Daniel Brunovský, and produced by the Poštovní Tiskárna Cenin Praha using the Heidelberg Speedmaster offset technology in printing sheets of 8 pieces. A FDC contains a Brunovský children's book illustration showing a clown wearing a hat consisting of a sailing ship with a central multi-layered tower (Fig. 27).



Fig. 26



Fig. 27

SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY INC.

***** AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS *****

Please check by e-mail if books are available before ordering.

Prices are postpaid in USA

(E=English,Cz=Czech,Sl=Slovak,G=German, H=Hungarian)

[NEW] 2010 PROTECTORATE BOHEMIA & MORAVIA 1939-1945 (Cz) --POFIS mini catalog, 34 pages, full color, shows all stamps and postal stationery issued, lists plate number positions and labels layout.	\$9.00
[NEW] 2008 SPECIALIZED SLOVENSKO 1993-2008(Sl) -- Zpravodaj, both Pofis and Michel catalog numbering, prices in Euro's, some English text.	\$33.00
[NEW] 1861-1918 RAKOUSKO, Vol. II (Cz) by Pavel Hirš. Includes black print and a CD. This is a catalog/monograph of Austrian postal stationery used in the Czech lands.	\$34.00
[NEW] 2009 CZECH REPUBLIC 1993-2008 (Cz) -- POFIS, color, specialized, every product issued by the Czech post.	\$29.00
[NEW] SPECIALIZED CATALOG OF 1944-1945 CARPATHO-UKRAINE(Cz) by Jiří Majer. Hard bound, 160 pages, in color, with values listed based on actual market prices.	\$26.00
[NEW] FORERUNNERS AND CONTEMPORARY STAMPS AND STATIONERY OF 1918-1919 CZECHOSLOVAKIA (Cz) by Pavel Hirš. Specialized catalog, hard-bound, 140 pgs. Post Offices listed in Slovak/Hungarian for Slovakia and Czech/German for Bohemia/Moravia/Silesia. In color.	\$26.00
[NEW] POST WW II POSTAL CANCELLATIONS 1945-1946 (Cz)by Vaclav Blaha. Soft-bound, 124 pgs. Postal cancel illustrations in b+w, covers in color. Must have for Revolutionary Overprints collectors.	\$19.00
[NEW] TGM 1923 (Cz,G,E) by Ivana Šarová. To date, best study of the 1923 Masaryk issue. Hard-bound, 114 pgs, color.	\$50.00
[NEW] DVD containing copies of the SPECIALIST for years 2000 - 2004 like the DVD listed below that covers 1939-1999. The two prices are for members/ non-members as outlined below. Out of USA add \$1 for postage.	\$ 5.00 \$10.00
[NEW] CD containing REVOLUTIONARY AND LIBERATION OVERPRINTS AND LOCAL ISSUES OF 1944-45 CZECHOSLOVAKIA(Cz) -- by Karel Holoubek A catalog and monograph on CD. First price is postpaid for members, second one is postpaid for non-members. All foreign orders please add \$3.00 for additional postage. [Reviewed Mar/Apr 08]	\$20.00 \$27.00
2007 SPECIALIZED ČESKOSLOVENSKO 1918-1939(Cz) -- POFIS, in color, highly specialized 232 pages. [Reviewed Nov/Dec 07]	\$29.00
The CHAINBREAKER (Liberated Republic)(E) by Chvalovsky/Kaspar. Specialized handbook on the stamps, covers and postal stationery of this issue with pricing, technical, and historical info. Trans. by Mark Wilson. 79 pgs, illus. First price is for book, second for CD.	\$16.00 \$ 9.00
DVD containing 20 th CENTURY ISSUES of the SPECIALIST (1939-1999) along with INDEX for them (E). First price is for members in USA, outside of USA members must add \$1 for postage to this price. Second price is for USA non-members, outside USA non-members add \$1 for postage.	\$10.00 \$20.00
ČESKOSLOVENSKO I and II, ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA, PROTEKTORAT B+M, SLOVENSKÁ REPUBLIKA, and SLOVENSKÝ ŠTAT (Cz) -- POFIS (2000)	\$19.00

OBLOUKOVÉ TYPY (Arch Types), 25h HRADČANY, V. KRESBA (5th Design)(Cz) by L. Olšina -- POFIS. 25 pages, in depth, well illustrated study. [See Jan/Feb '07 issue, pg 21]	\$ 6.00
2006 SPECIALIZED CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1945-1992 (Cz) --POFIScatalog for Czechoslovakian stamps since WW II with lots on varieties including the Chust overprints (IN COLOR!!). ***BACK IN STOCK***	\$31.00
CZECHOSLOVAK STATIONERY & POSTCARD CATALOG 1918-1992(Cz) Vol. II, by Starec and Beneš.	\$23.00
SCOUT PHILATELY IN OUR COUNTRY (ČSR, ČR, SL)(Cz) -- by Vapenka. In color, describes all scout stamps, covers, postmarks, overprints, cancels.	\$11.00
COMPLETE 20 th CENTURY SUBJECT INDEX, 1939-1999 (E) -- Index of articles published in the SPECIALIST over 61 years. First prices are for printed version US postpaid/foreign + postage. Second prices are for CD version US/foreign postpaid. See Jul/Aug 2004 issue.	\$9/6+p \$2/3
CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAGE STAMPS AND THEIR COUNTERFEITS 1918-1939 (PADĚLKY)(E,Cz,G) -- A beautiful hard cover, illustrated, updated version in English, Czech, German. (Reviewed Jan/Feb 99)	\$30.00
GLOSSARY OF PHILATELIC TERMINOLOGY -- Second Edition (E) -- Translate Czech terms into English and back; 130 pgs. (Reviewed: Mar/Apr 97)	\$20.00
MAIL OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK LEGIONS IN FRANCE (Cz,E) -- by Jaroslav J. Verner. This 80 page, English/Czech publication is the first on this subject and is being published by the Society. It includes political/historic context, development of units and their postal arrangements, illustrations of cancels, point valuation system, and B/W and color illustrations. (Reviewed: Jan/Feb 03)	\$12.00
POSTAL HISTORY OF TELČ AND ITS REGION (Cz) -- by Henry Hahn. This well illustrated 48 page booklet covers all aspects of the development and growth of the postal service of the Telč region. (Reviewed: Sep/Oct 03)	\$ 7.00
SPECIALIZED CATALOG, SPORTS STAMPS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 1918-1992 (Sl) -- by Ervín Smažák. Excellent production, 20 pages, all in color on glossy paper, including pricing of all stamps (in Slovak crowns).	\$ 5.00
THE PHILATELY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR BEGINNERS by Phil Freer (E)	\$10.00
HISTORY OF POSTAL AGENCIES (POŠTOVNY) IN THE TĚŠÍN REGION by Tovačovsky, Síkora, and Schodelbauer(Cz). (Reviewed: Nov/Dec 00)	\$ 7.00
MANUAL FOR HRADČANY COLLECTORS -- VOL. 3, by Hamr and Škaloud(Cz) -- Follow on to previous two volumes. (Reviewed Nov/Dec 06)	\$18.50
AGRICULTURE & SCIENCE ISSUE 1923(Cz)	\$10.00
CUMULATIVE INDEX OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST 1939-92 (E)	\$15.00
CZECH POST POSTAL CARD commemorating the 60 th Anniversary of the Society -- May 31, 1999 (see Jul/Aug 99, p1-3; Sep/Oct 99, p38)	\$ 1.50
MONOGRAFIE Series (Cz):	
[NEW] MONOGRAFIE 9, Vol. VII (Cz) -- by Pavel Aksamit. First Day Covers of Czechoslovakia 1947-1992, hardbound, 260 p, b+w.	\$39.00
MONOGRAFIE 11, Vol. II -- Postal Service in the Terezin Ghetto -- by Beneš and Tošnerová. 200 pgs, heavily illustrated in b/w, including forgeries.	\$27.00
MONOGRAFIE 16, Part II (Šafov - Žumberk, Slovakia, Carpatho-Ukraine, railroad cancels] -- catalog of 1918-1920 period postmarks	\$22.50
[NEW] MONOGRAFIE 25, Vol. I -- 90 years of the Czech Postal Museum	\$35.00

Publications of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain(E):

Monograph 4 -- CARPATHO-UKRAINE -- POSTAL MARKINGS of the YEARS 1938-45, by Juan Page	\$16.00
Monograph 5 --CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY IN FRANCE (WWII), by Reader	\$17.50
Monograph 6 -- GERMAN OCCUPATION OF SUDETENLAND 1938, by Dawson	\$20.00
Monograph 7 -- INDEX OF ARTICLES ON CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY 1950-1979, by Negus	\$ 4.50
Monograph 8 -- OCCUPATION OF CZECH FRONTIER TERRITORIES BY BECK'S POLAND from the POSTAL HISTORY VIEW-POINT, by Neumann	\$14.50
Monograph 9 -- FIELD POST OF CZECHOSLOVAK & ALLIED FORCES IN RUSSIA 1918-20, by W.A. Page	\$14.50
Monograph 10 -- 25 th ANNIVERSARY OF CZECHOSLOVAK INDEPENDENCE (The 1943 London Exhibitions), by Kralicek and W.A. Page	\$17.50
Monograph 11 -- THE SOKOLS IN PHILATELY -- COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS AND POSTCARDS, by Day	\$25.00
Monograph 12 -- MILITARY CARDS OF THE EXILED CZECHOSLOVAK FORCES IN FRANCE AND BRITAIN, by Kralicek and W.A. Page	\$14.50
Monograph 13 -- THE HRADČANY ISSUE 1918-20, by Bradford	\$16.00
Monograph 14 -- THE LIBERATION OF OLOMOUC, MAY 1945, by Robert J. Hill	\$18.00
Monograph 15 -- POSTAL HISTORY OF THE FREE CZECHOSLOVAK FORCES IN GREAT BRITAIN: 1940-1945, by R. Beith	\$22.00
Monograph 16 -- THE CZECHOSLOVAK LEGION IN POLAND AND RUSSIA and CZECHOSLOVAKS IN THE MIDDLE EAST 1940-1943, by Dr. Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung RDP.	\$24.00
Monograph 17 -- CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST 1918-21, by Brian Day	\$27.00
Monograph 18 -- POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS FOLLOWING THE LIBERATION OF PRAGUE IN MAY 1945, by Robert J. Hill	\$32.00
<u>[NEW]</u> Monograph 20 -- THE EARLY POSTAL HISTORY OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE by Otto Hornung. All color, 34 pgs, with particular reference to the usage of the first postage stamps of Austria.	\$35.00

Please check by e-mail if books are available before ordering.

All publications available on postpaid basis in USA.

Non-members, please add 25% to the price plus full postage.

All orders are shipped the day received!

Foreign orders contact for postage rate.

E-mail: canclcek@mwt.net

"Free SCP Commemorative postal card with order over \$25.00"

Society for Czechoslovak Philately Inc.

Attention: Savoy Horvath

S8207, US Hwy 61

Readstown, WI 54652