



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

The Specialist is in color, sponsored by the Phil Melamed Trust in honor of Charlie Chesloe.

A.P.S. Unit 18

ISSN: 0526-5843

Vol. 78

SUMMER 2016

No. 3, Whole No.645

CO-EDITORS

Great news!

Our long-time member, Keith Hart, has agreed to be co-editor with me beginning next year.

Keith and his wife are now both retired, and even better -- they have elected to return to the Denver area. They are already here. This will make our collaboration much easier. We have already met and discussed how we might share the work. I will probably focus on Czech/Slovak language articles and contacts, while Keith handles English oriented items.

I have asked Keith to write an article about how he came to be collecting Czechoslovak stamps, and thus you will get to learn a great deal more about him and his family.

The Society for Czechoslovak Philately is alive and well!!

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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. However, the circuit is currently not operating because of a lack of materials from members. When this situation is remedied we will notify you in the *Specialist*.
2. A book sales division is run by James Buckner. A listing of philatelic books for sale appears regularly in the *Specialist*. For further information, contact James Buckner, 322 Woodhaven Drive, Athens, GA 30606, email wellseats@hotmail.com
3. A Society library is housed with Ludvik Svoboda, librarian. For inquiries on borrowing books, buying past *Specialist*'s or making book donations, contact Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, or email: Lousvoboda@comcast.net
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. (see address/email above).
5. THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official quarterly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles, advertising rates, and bound copies, contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda (see address/email above).
6. Our web site (www.csphilately.org) on the Internet provides Society information on Membership, History, Education, Auctions, Exhibits, Book Reviews, Contacting other members via email, and more. The site is maintained by Marisa Galitz, P O Box 646, Owings Mills, MD 21117, email: mmgalitz@gmail.com.

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Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

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Vol. 78

Summer 2016

No. 3, Whole No. 645

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

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*All officers and board members serve the Society voluntarily and without compensation.
Society Constitution and By-Laws can be found on the website.*

President's Report

The World Stamp Show 2016 (WSS NY 2016) was held in New York City from May 28 through June 4, 2016 at which the Society for Czechoslovak Philately (SCP) was represented at our booth which was typically very busy. Our booth hosted many members and friends of the SCP throughout the show, and our presence resulted in the addition of at least six new members, and renewal of two former members, and the sale of much philatelic literature.

Thanks to all members who actively participated in managing our booth and preparing for the show in advance. A very special thank-you should be offered to Lou Svoboda and his wife Katherine, who spent a considerable amount of time preparing for WSS and at the SCP booth throughout the week -- all on the heels of leading the participation of the SCP at Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2016. The efforts of Marisa Galitz are also to be commended as her rolling computer presentation on Czechoslovak philately seemed to attract much attention at both RMSS and WSS, and this will likely be a staple of our participation at future shows.

WSS NY 2016 offered an incredible array of competitive philatelic exhibits, daily auctions, an extensive dealer bourse, and an opportunity to see some of the great rarities of philately. Many SCP members participated as exhibitors, and their efforts are to be commended. Congratulations to those of our members who were duly awarded with prestigious WSS recognition -- a true accomplishment considering that the WSS NY 2016 show was a F.I.P. accredited show with hundreds of international competitive exhibits.

The following SCP members won the following awards for their efforts:

1. Anthony Dewey -- Gold and a Special Award for Treatment (The 3c Connecticut Tercentenary Issue of 1935 and Its First Days)
2. Lubor Kunc -- Vermeil (Austro-Hungarian Field Post 1914-1918)
3. Frederick Lawrence -- Large Silver (Scouting on Stamps "Classics", The Three Earliest Issues)
4. William Sandrik -- Large Vermeil (Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Company 1839-1917)
5. Hans van Dooremalen -- Gold (USA Postal Cards 1873-1913)
6. Hans van Dooremalen -- Vermeil [literature](*War Hospitals in Brunn During the Great War*, CPSGB Monograph 29)
7. CPSGB [Mark Wilson] -- Large Silver [DVD](*Czechout Interactive Indexes 1975-2015*)
8. Ross Wood -- Large Vermeil (Postal History of Nyasaland -- African Postal Union to Federation)
9. Alfonso Zulueta -- Large Vermeil (Bosnia-Herzegovina: Austro-Hungarian Occupation, 1878-1908)

The WSS NY 2016 show also offered a unique opportunity for some of our Board members to meet with our counterparts from the Czech Republic and Slovakia with a view to solidifying mutual cooperation with the Union of Czech Philatelists (SČF) and the Union of Slovak Philatelists (ZSF). To this end a friendly dinner meeting was arranged with representatives of the SČF, Lubor Kunc and Vít Vaníček. It was a pleasure to meet with them over dinner at which specific initiatives were discussed to better serve our members through more

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formal cooperation. Our other meeting with Vojtěch Jankovič of the ZSF was similarly successful in establishing more formal cooperative relations aimed at better serving our members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Vaníček, Mr. Kunc, and Mr. Jankovič for taking the time and making the effort to meet with us and to work with the SCP in the future.

Some of the key initiatives that were discussed and that will be moving forward included:

(1) establishing a point-to-point portal through which our members can have their material expertized by accredited Czech and Slovak experts, avoiding the sometimes difficult task of researching which expert is best suited to your needs and avoiding any language barrier issues;

(2) establishing a link to provide philatelic literature to meet the needs of our members, as finding publications and acquiring them for our members at a reasonable cost is often problematic;

(3) providing direct internet links to the resources offered by the SČF and ZSF via their websites, and

(4) cooperating with respect to our potential participation, either formally or informally, at PRAGA 2018.

It was similarly a very nice surprise to meet with Robert Lauer of the Society for Hungarian Philately (SHP) which has resulted in the mutual promotion of both Societies via our respective websites and through the dissemination of membership brochures. Given the overlap in philatelic interest of members of both societies, this arrangement should be beneficial to our existing membership, and it provides another avenue through which the SCP can gain new members. You may find the SHP at www.hungarianphilately.org.

Hopefully in the near future I will be able to announce a formal process for expertizing via the SCP and the terms of any other formal arrangements that may be made. Many formal details for PRAGA 2018 will also be settled upon in August after which our members will have much more reliable information in the event that they wish to participate as exhibitors or simply attend the show.

I wish all of you a safe and enjoyable summer.

Chris Jackson

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Check out our sister organization, the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, at their website: www.cpsgb.org.uk, and through their new Membership Secretary, Hans van Dooremalen at cpsgb1@gmail.com.

Their publication *Czechout* and our *Specialist* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your CPSGB dues to our SCP Treasurer without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the UK. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies! CPSGB dues are \$10 for digital, \$45 for printed copies by airmail or \$39 for printed copies by surface. Payment can be made via Paypal to sales@csphilately.org or by check to SCP, c/o Tom Cossaboom, PO Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302.

COLLECTING CZECHOSLOVAK MACHINE ADVERTISING (SLOGAN)¹ CANCELS 1920-1939

by Steven Friedenthal

In 1918, independence for Czechoslovakia arrived with many essential national institutions already in place. A postal system, inherited from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, was well developed. Independence did bring much change, however, and necessitated the introduction of new postage stamps to identify and symbolize the new republic.

The newly independent Czechoslovak postal system adapted the canceling machines of the previous Austrian and Hungarian systems, which were used in the larger cities and towns, to its needs. The early canceling machines were developed in Norway and are known as "Krag" machines.² They printed a dater hub and killer [which were often slogans] continuously across the top of the envelope (Fig. 1). A few other types of canceling machines were also used, notably single-impression Universal (also used in Canada) and Ascom-Hassler (developed in Germany) machines (Fig. 2). Machine advertising cancels were not new, having been used in other countries since at least the end of the previous century.

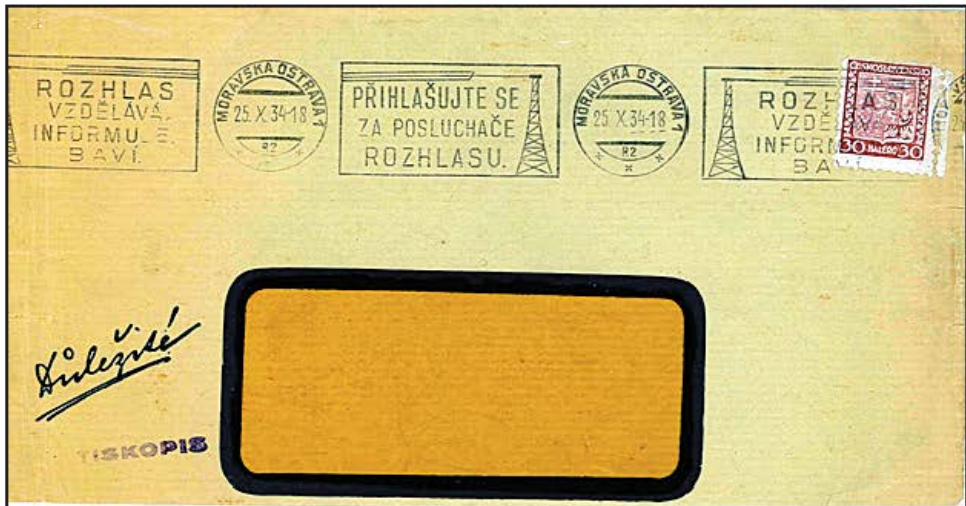


Figure 1: Krag machine advertising cancel showing cancel repeated across top



Figure 2: Example of a Universal machine advertising cancel

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Hasek³ documents the early canceling machines used during the Austro-Hungarian Empire period. The existing literature available in English notes only one machine slogan cancel from the Austro-Hungarian Empire period.⁴

After the initial period of independence and issuance of the Hradčany series national postage stamps designed by Alfons Mucha, machine advertising cancels were introduced for use in Prague in 1920. The earliest reported machine advertising cancel (June 7, 1920) was for benefit of child welfare (Fig. 3). It is a bilingual Czech and English [why English?] cancel reported used between June 7 and August 14 of that year. A second advertising cancel was used in 1920 for the VII SOKOL Slet (used between June 21 and July 28)(also Fig. 3). It is unclear as to whether this second cancel replaced the Child Fund cancel during this period or was used on another machine in the Prague office. Both of these cancels are quite common. A third cancel, also used during 1920, advertized the Prague Fair. This third cancel was used in September, 1920 and only one example is reported (September 28)(also Fig. 3); similar, but not identical cancels are also reported for 1921 and 1922. These are also elusive with two and one example reported, respectively.

A proportion of the machine advertising cancels are duplex advertisements, that is, they had two different, but related texts. It should also be noted that some

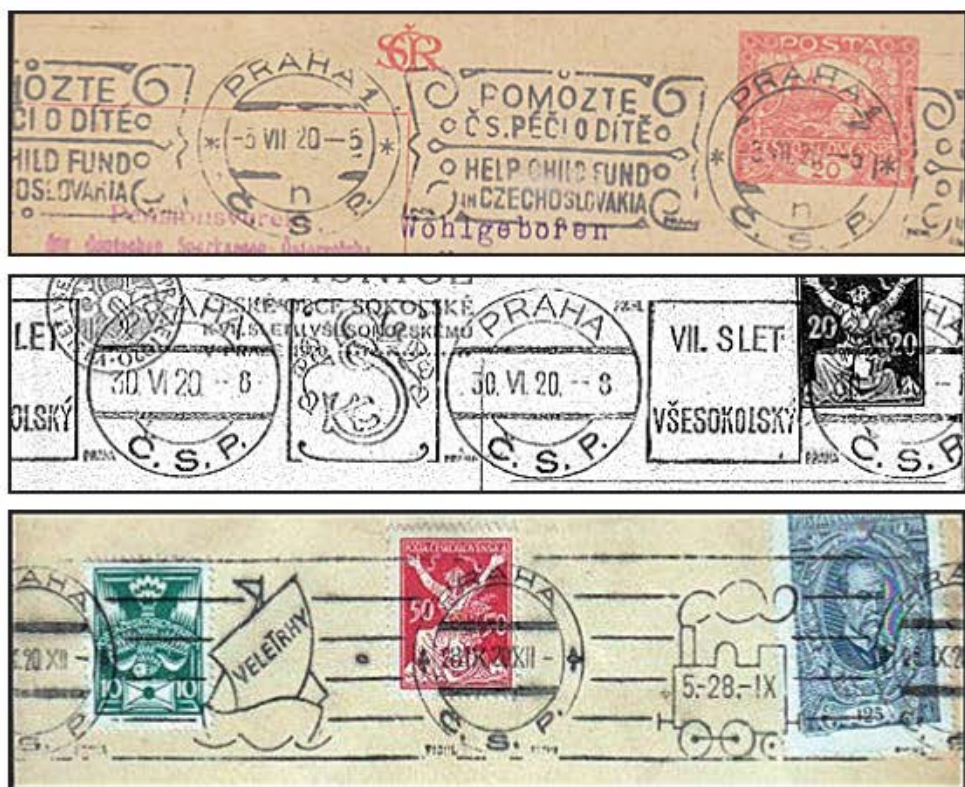


Figure 3: The first three Czechoslovak advertising cancels, used during 1920

of these early advertising cancels have “illustrations”, an aspect which continued in many Czechoslovak slogan cancels until the end of the period (Fig. 4). Thus Czechoslovak advertising cancels are even initially more complex in design than their United States, Canadian, or British counterparts with which the current author is also familiar.



Figure 4: Example of illustrated duplex advertising cancel



Figure 5: First advertising cancel used outside Prague

The first advertising cancel used outside Prague was for the Orient Fair in Bratislava in 1921 (Fig. 5). This cancel had the word for “Fair” in five languages: Slovak, English, French, German, and Serbo-Croatian. Many additional slogans, especially those advertising international events included French or German translations (Fig. 6).



Figure 6: Examples of bilingual advertising cancels (both with Czech and French)



Figure 7: First use of Czech and Slovak versions of an advertising cancel [buy state construction lottery tickets]

The cancels advertised events, charities, anniversaries, lotteries, postal services and directives, and national concerns. While most cancels were printed in black, sometimes other colours were used instead of or in addition to black. Advertising cancels have been seen in blue, red, purple, green, and violet.

A number of advertising cancels, especially those that had a national purpose were produced in both Czech and Slovak versions. The first advertising cancel with both Czech and Slovak versions was first used in 1928 in Czech. This has only been seen in Slovak from the mid-1930's (Fig. 7).

The period of the First Republic ends with the occupation by the Germans, the secession of Slovakia, and the establishment of the Protectorate over the rump of Bohemia and Moravia. While stamps of Czechoslovakia remained valid in the Protectorate until December 15, 1939, some of the advertising cancels were used later than this date in the Protectorate, Slovakia, and in the cities of the Sudetenland (Fig. 8).

During the period of the First Republic, Czechoslovakia used well over a hundred and thirty different machine advertising cancels, including Czech and Slovak versions (Prague offices used the largest number of these cancels). When the different offices, multiple years of use, and different colours are counted, the variety of advertising cancels is substantial. Over one hundred offices have been seen by the current researchers on examples used with at least one machine advertising cancel during this period. A list of these offices is below in Table 1, Offices Confirmed to Have Used Advertising Cancels During First Republic Period.

The State of Research on Czechoslovak Machine Slogan Cancels

There are several detailed works on cancels of the Czechoslovak First Republic period, including examinations of the special commemorative hand stamp cancels.

A major work entitled, "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ PŘÍLEŽITOSTNÁ A PROPAGAČNÍ RAZÍTKA 1919-1969" [translated as: Czechoslovak Occasional and



Figure 8: Examples of Czechoslovak cancels used during the Protectorate period and in Slovakia after secession.

Promotional Cancels 1918-1969*] by Václav Nebešský,⁶ published in six booklets, lists both hand-stamp and machine advertising cancels used during the stated period. Nebešský's work is organized by topic; multiple years of use are not listed nor are early and late dates given. Many advertisements are listed several times as they fit several topics. The list of offices using the cancels is extensive.

An article by Rulec and Chudoba⁸ was published in the November 2012 issue 11 of *Filatelie*, entitled "STROJOVÁ RAZÍTKA S PROPAGAČNÍMI STOČKY: Čs Turnusová Razítka" (translated as: Machine Cancels with Promotional Notices: CzSl Travelling (Touring) Cancels*). The authors of this article provided the current researchers with a complete pre-publication copy of their article. This article updates a previous article by Hášek⁷, "Turnusová razítka" in *Filatelie* [1981:21] by Antonín Hášek and describes the use of advertising dies that were passed from office to office.

Examination of issues of *Tribuna Filatelistů*, revealed only a few notifications of slogans. Lowey's articles in *The Czecho-Slovak Specialist*⁸ list several machine advertising cancels, but primarily dealt with commemorative hand-stamp cancels. Neumann's work in 2004⁹ likewise only deals with hand-stamp cancels.

Friedenthal and Schubert¹⁰ attempt a complete listing of all First Republic Period advertising cancels including both Czech and Slovak versions. Their work includes all reported offices and years of use, earliest and latest dates and colours used for the canceling. A new edition of this book is available to download on the website of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately (www.csphilately.org).

Collecting Czechoslovak Advertising Cancels

Czechoslovak advertising cancels can be collected in a number of ways. Today, most collect them on entire covers; this was not always the way they were collected. In earlier years they were often cut off the cover.

Slogans can be collected by topic, for example sports slogans or fair slogans. One can collect bilingual or multi-lingual slogans. Regional slogans can be collect-

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ed, such as those of Slovakia only. One can even collect slogans which were produced in a specific or more than one colour. The options are open to the collector.

The current author would be willing to correspond with those interested in collecting slogans and exchange information and answer questions when possible -- sfriedenthal@shaw.ca.

* Not a literal translation

**Table 1: Offices Confirmed to Have Used Advertising Cancels
During First Republic Period**

As 1	Karlovy Vary	Poděbrady	Příbram
Banská Stiaavnica	Karlovy Vary 1	Podmoklý 1	Prostějov 1
Benešov u Prahy	Kežmarok	Poprad 2	Prostějov 2
Beroun 1	Kolín 2	Praha	Rakovník 2
Boskovice	Košice 1	Praha 1	Ružomberok 1
Brandys nad Labem	Košice 2	Praha 2	Senice nad Myjavou
Bratislava	Kremnica	Praha 3	Spišská Nová Ves
Bratislava 1	Krnov 2	Praha 5	Starý Smokovec
Bratislava 2	Kroměříž	Praha 6	Šternberk
Brno 1	Levice	Praha 8	Štrbské Pleso
Brno 2	Liberec 1	Praha 10	Tábor
Brno 12	Liberec 3	Praha 10 Hrad	Tatranská Lomnica
Česká Lípa	Liptovský Svätý	Praha 11	Teplice 1 Mikuláš
Česká Třebová	Litoměřice	Praha 14	Teplice-Šanov 1
České Budějovice 1	Lučenec	Praha 15	Třebíč
České Budějovice 3	Luhačovice	Praha 22	Trenčianské Teplice
České Velenice	Marianské Lázně	Praha 25	Trenčín
Český Těšín	Michalovce	Praha 27	Trnava
Cheb 2	Místek	Praha 31	Trutnov
Čop Mladá Boleslav	Praha 36	Turčianský Svätý	Martín
Děčín	Moravská Ostrava 1	Praha 37	Turnov
Dolní Adrspach	Moravská Ostrava 3	Praha 40	Turnov 1
Filakovo	Náchod 1	Praha 47	Uherské Hradiště 1
Františkovy Lázně	Německý Brod 2	Praha 55	Ustí nad Labem 1
Frydek 2	Nové Zámky 1	Praha 65	Užhorod 1
Hlinsko v Čechách	Olomouc 1	Praha 68	Valašské Meziříčí
Hradec Králové 2	Olomouc 2	Praha 73	Velké Meziříčí
Hranice 1	Opava 1	Praha Kutná	Hora Žilina
Jablonec nad Nisou	Orlova	Praha Listovní	Žilina 1 Výpravna
Jachymov 2	Paroubice 2	Praha-Stadion	Zlín 1
Jihlava Piešťany	Přerov 1	Zlín 2Plzeň 1	Přerov 2Znojmo 2
	Plzeň 3	Přesov 1	Zvolen 1

Notes and References:

1. The terms advertising cancel and slogan cancel are used interchangeably.
2. Brofos, Frederick n.d. "The History of the Hansen-Krag Post Marking Machine and Its Factory" in Posthorn http://posthorn.scc-online.org/BROFOS_ESSAYS_v2_pages_352_378.pdf
3. Hášek, Ing. Antonín 2000. "Introduction of Mechanical Canceling Machines", The Czechoslovak Specialist 62:2 p. 25-7.
4. Kvasnička, Zdeněk 1967. "Commemorative Cancels of Austria-Hungary Used in Czechoslovak Areas. The Czechoslovak Specialist 29:271.p.1-6

5. Nebeský, Václav. "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ PŘÍLEŽITOSTNÁ A PROPAGAČNÍ RAZÍTKA 1919-1969", Brno 1971
6. Rulec, M., and Chudoba, J. 2012. "STROJOVÁ RAZÍTKA S PROPAGAČNÍMI STOČKY: Čs Turnusová Razítka" Filatelie #11 November 2012
7. Hášek, Antonín. 1981. "Turnusová razítka" in Filatelie #21
8. For example: Lowey, Joseph W. 1946, "Czechoslovak Commemorative Postmarks". The Czechoslovak Specialist. May 1946 p. 39
9. Neumann, J. Václavovič, 2004. Katalog Příležitostných Poštovních Razítek Československá Republika 1918-1931. Plzeň, Pressful.
10. Friedenthal and Schubert. 2015. Czechoslovak Machine Advertising Cancels: The First Republic Period. Society for Czechoslovak Philately. <http://www.csphilately.net/publications/publications-for-free/cz-machine-slogan-cancels/>
11. Thanks to Lou Svoboda for his review and comments on drafts of the article and aid in translations.



Philatelic News and Views

1. From Ludvik Svoboda:

You should take a minute and take a look at the Available Publications at the very back of this issue. The format has been re-organized so that the publications are grouped under headings: Catalogs, 1st Republic, WW II, General Reference, and Specialist. It should be easier for you to find a publication that may interest you.

AND, look especially at the first four Catalog items, which are *[NEW]*. The first one is a special new B&M catalog that has a tremendous amount of information about these wartime issues -- invaluable for specializing in these stamps. The second one is a catalog on perfins found on Hradčany stamps -- it is the only one we have for now. Hopefully we will get more in the future. If you are interested in perfins, let me know.

2. From Ludvik Svoboda:

In the Spring 2015 issue, I ran a short notice that I had available for sale to members several cachets from the Tabor, SD, Czech Days event. I have four left that I have dropped the price to \$1 each plus postage for mailing (which should only be \$.47).

I would like to find a home for these, so please contact me (see page 2).



CZECHOSLOVAK COVERS
SENT TO PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT:
Postal History from the 1930's
by Paul M. Holland
pholland@thorleaf.com

Collecting worldwide postal history without a theme, can be overwhelming. As a specialist collector of FDR-related items, my focus in postal history collecting is on covers that were sent to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. What makes this approach feasible is the fact that FDR was an avid worldwide stamp collector who received mail from around the world, then saved many of these covers as part of his personal stamp collection. Following his death, his collection was sold in 1946 in a series of H. R. Harmer auctions, thus making available to collectors many items that might otherwise have been lost to posterity.

A search of the index of *The Czechoslovak Specialist* shows entries for postal history in the 1918-1920 and 1939-1945 periods, but nothing in between. It occurred to me that it might be useful to help fill this gap with some 1932-1936 examples from my FDR collection. This includes both ordinary mail and registered letters, with their combination of registrations labels and backstamps showing routing. I also find the colorful honorific salutations and languages used in addressing these covers to FDR to be fascinating, since these provide additional cultural flavor and offer a glimpse into the lives of people motivated to write to the President of the United States during the worldwide economic depression of the 1930's.

Regarding rates during the entire period of the covers shown here, the international postal rate from Czechoslovakia to the USA for a letter under 20 grams was 2.50 Kč (Kč = Czechoslovak koruna, 1K = 100h, h = haléř). Each additional 20 grams was 1.50 Kč, with 2.50 Kč added for registration.[1] When a cancellation shows two names, the top one is the Czechoslovak name for the post office, while the lower one is typically the German name.

The first cover (Fig. 1a) was mailed from Opava 1 / Troppau 1 on 6 December 1932 and provides a good example of redirected mail. Although FDR was elected President on November 8, 1932, he did not actually take office until March 4, 1933, and in fact remained Governor of New York State until December 31st. Consequently, this registered letter was incorrectly addressed to him at the White House in Washington, DC, then redirected to Albany, New York. This is clearly shown by the backstamps which reveal that on arrival in the US, it was first processed in New York City on the 14th of December, arrived in Washington on the 15th, then forwarded to Albany by the post office where it arrived on the 16th (Fig. 1b). Also shown is a closeup of the backstamp from the Harmer Auction that appears on all of the covers discussed in this article (Fig. 1c). The front of this cover is franked with 6.5 Kč in postage using singles of Scott #187, 188, and 186. This is 1.5 Kč over the standard rate for up to 20 grams suggesting it was overweight.

The next cover from Uhrovec in Slovakia (Fig. 2a) straddles FDR's inauguration by a few days on either side. Addressed to "His Excellency, Franklin Roosevelt" it was mailed on 27 February 1933, but arrived in Washington on March 9th shortly after FDR became President. This registered letter was franked on the back of the envelope with a pair of Scott 136 plus a single of 168, as shown, again suggesting it was overweight.



Figure 1a: Redirected registered mail cover sent to FDR from Opava / Troppau on 6 December 1932.



Figure 1b: Closeup of arrival backstamp on Opava / Troppau cover showing rerouting 14-16 December 1932.

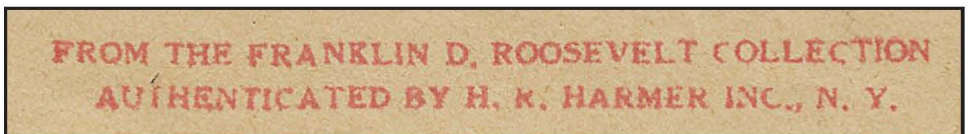


Figure 1c: Harmer Auction backstamp found on the reverse of every cover shown here.

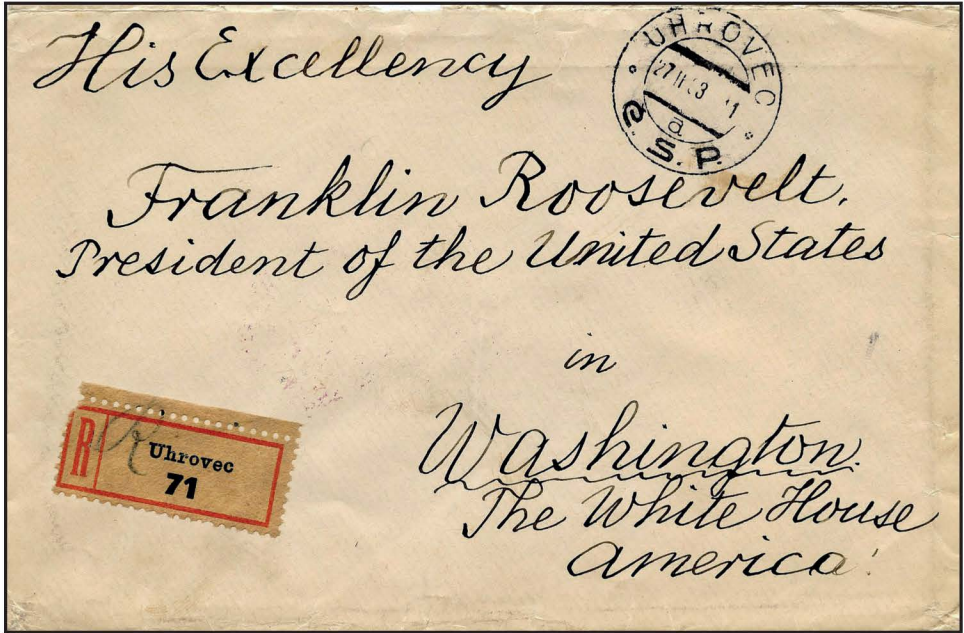


Figure 2a: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Uhrovec on 27 February 1933.



Figure 2b: Closeup showing franking and backstamps on Uhrovec cover.

Of particular interest to me is one sent on 2 May 1933, that is addressed in Czech to "Jeho Excelence Vysocvážený pan Roosevelt, president Severoamerických spojených států" (His excellency, Highly esteemed Mr. Roosevelt, President of the North American United States) and is franked at the correct 5 Kč rate with a single Scott 186 (Fig. 3a). Backstamps show its mailing from Hradec Králové on 2 May, arrival in New York on

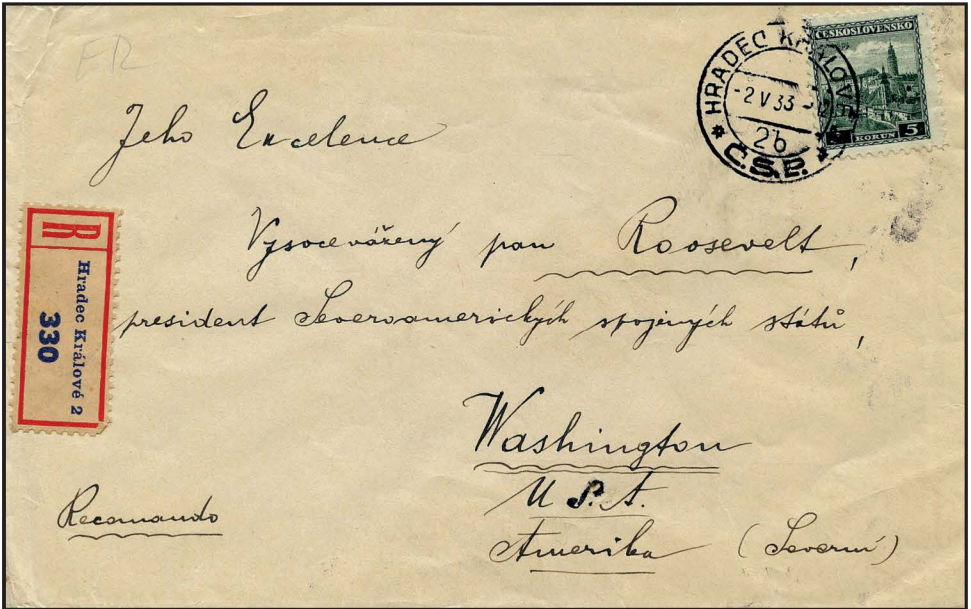


Figure 3a: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Hradec Králové on 2 May 1933.

the 11th, and received in Washington later that same day. What makes this cover especially intriguing is the back (Fig. 3b). The sender Ing. Karel Pálka has carefully provided his full return address, including “Evropa” at the end. The cover also has a

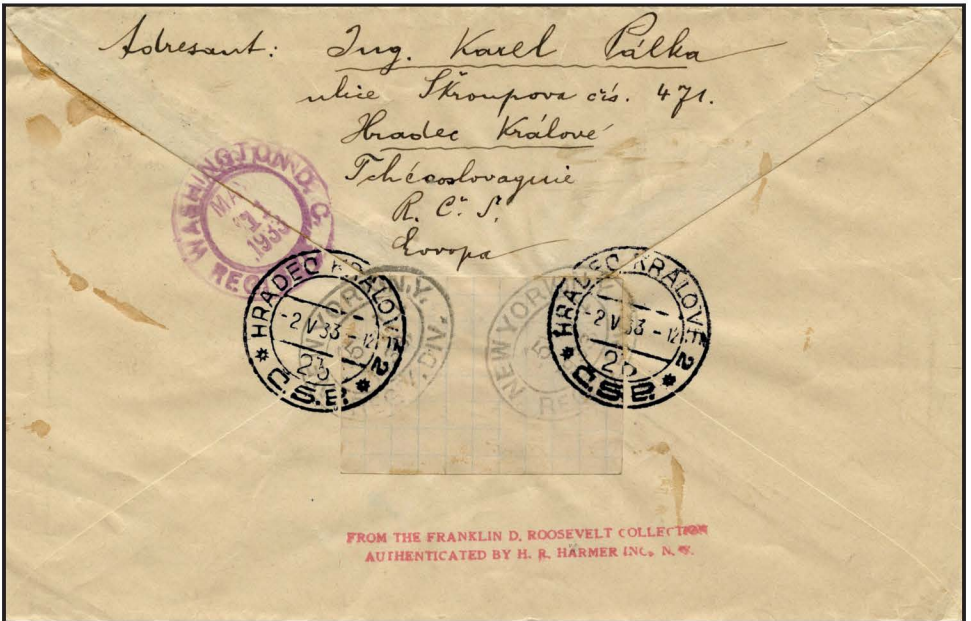


Figure 3b: Back of Hradec Králové cover showing return address, backstamps, etc.

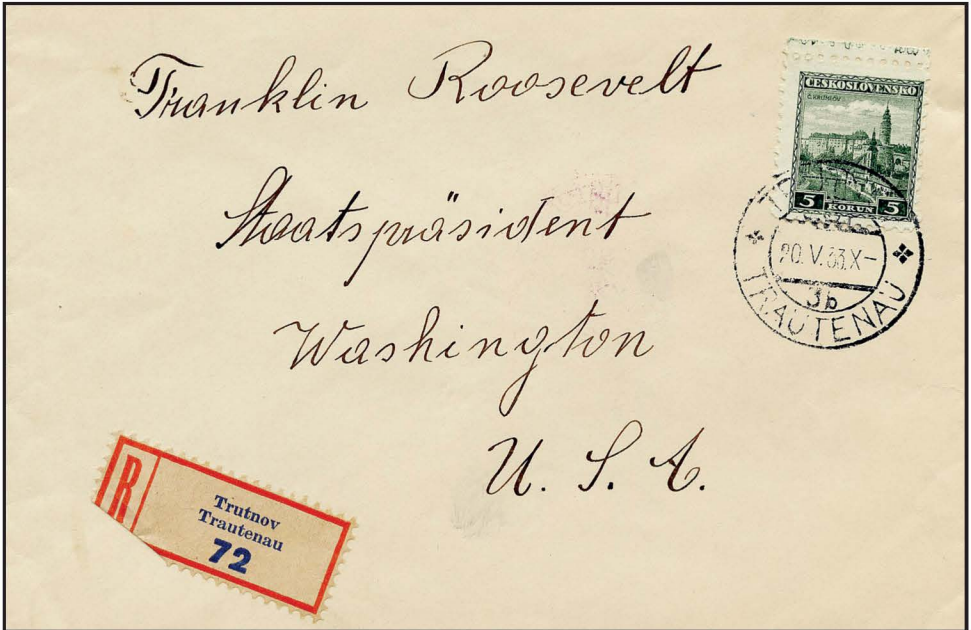


Figure 4: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Trutnov / Trautenau on 20 May 1933.

pasted-on rectangle of graph paper on the back, perhaps as an improvised security seal for the envelope, which gives it a poignant human touch.

In Figure 4, is another registered cover addressed to Franklin Roosevelt as “Staatspräsident”. This is also franked at the 5 Kč rate for registered mail with a single Scott 186, sent on 20 May 1933 from Trutnov / Trautenau, arriving in Washington on the 31st.

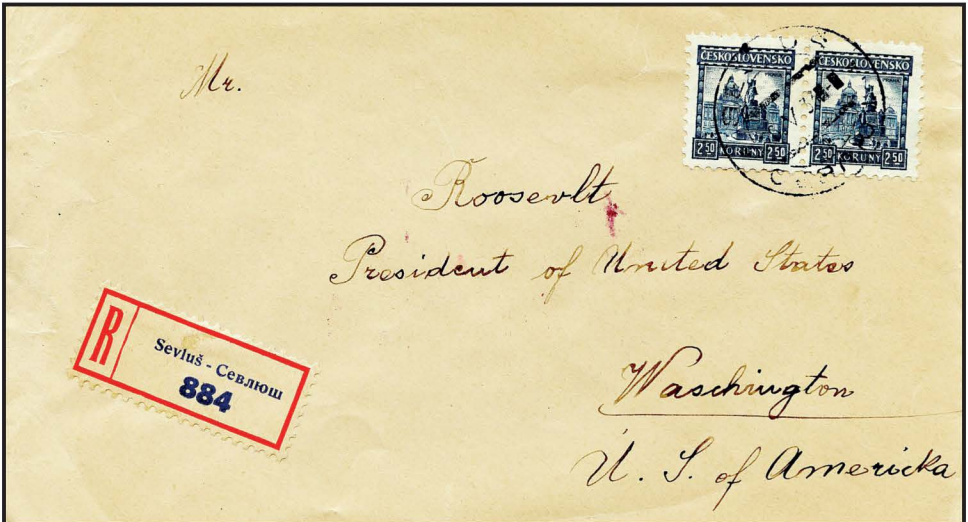


Figure 5: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Ševlūs on 26 May 1933.

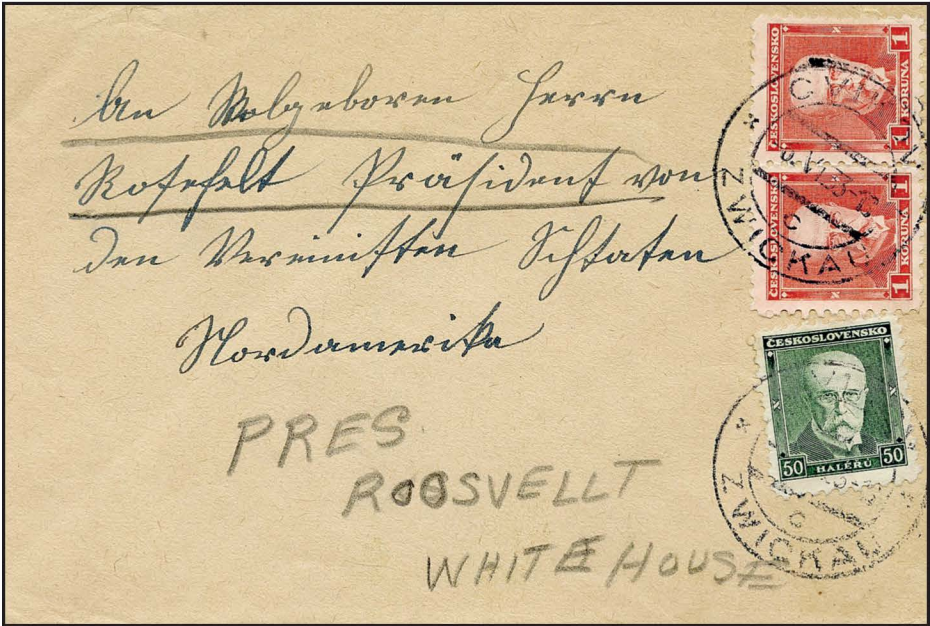


Figure 6: Ordinary mail cover sent to FDR from Cvikov / Zwickau on 6 June 1933.

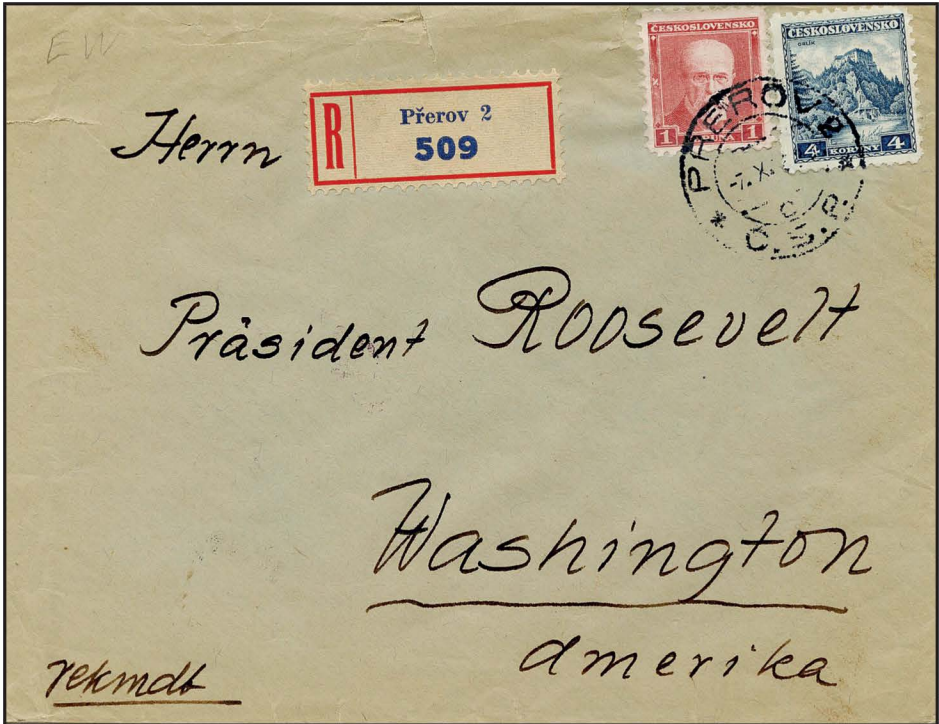


Figure 7: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Přerov on 7 October 1933.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

From Sevluš, a small city in the Carpatho-Ukraine region is a registered cover franked with a pair of Scott 164 shown in Figure 5. This was mailed to FDR on 26 May 1933 and received in Washington on 7 June.

Others are elaborately addressed in German, including this small ordinary mail cover sent at the 2.5 Kč international rate from the town of Cvikov / Zwickau on 6 June 1933, franked with a single Scott 168 and a pair of 170 (Fig. 6). In difficult to read handwriting, the address appears to read "Den Wohlgeboren Herrn Rosefelt Praseident von Den Vereinegen Staten, Nordamericka" (Well-born Mister Rosefelt President of the United States, North America). Note that someone in the post office has made an effort to identify the intended recipient using block letters printed in pencil. The misspellings of President Roosevelt's name, initially as ROSSVELLT(*sic*), then partially corrected by changing the first S to an O, suggests this was done locally, and not in the United States.

A registered mail letter from Přerov franked with singles of Scott 170 and 185 for the 5 Kč rate, that is much more clearly addressed in German is shown in Figure 7. This was sent on 7 October 1933, and received on the 18th as indicated by the backstamp.



Figure 8: Ordinary mail cover sent to FDR from Plzeň on 6 November 1933.

In Figure 8 is an ordinary international mail cover from Plzeň sent at the 2.5 Kč rate. This is more fancifully addressed in German to "Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Praseident von USA" (high well-born Mr. President of the USA). Franked with singles of Scott 134 and 168 on 6 November 1933, this also displays an underlined request "zu eingenen Händen" (delivery into his hands).

The unusual registered cover from Bratislava shown in Figure 9 is carefully addressed in English to "Sir Roosevelt" in Washington(*sic*) and franked with a strip of three 3 Kč stamps (Scott 136) for a total of 9 Kč. It appears to have been sent on 18 June 1934 and was received in Washington on the 29th. The sender's added English notation of "Into his hands" written on the front along with "Avis de reception" in French, suggests that they wanted to be absolutely certain that FDR received it personally. Also note that the small handwritten note in the bottom corner is Czech "K vlastním rukám" or "Into his own hands". The cover does not appear to be philatelic,

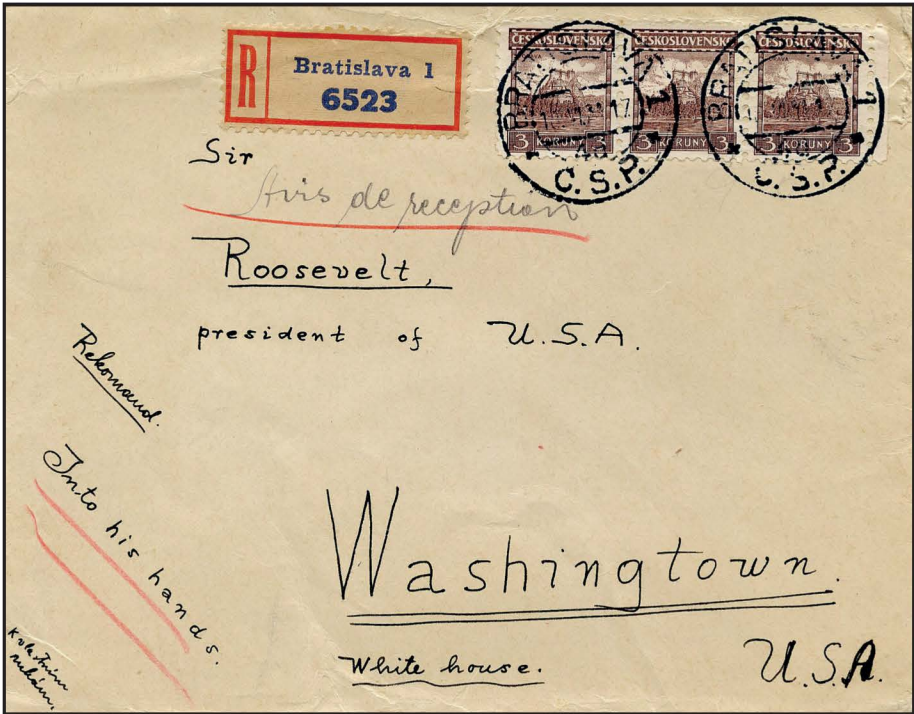


Figure 9: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Bratislava on 18 June 1934.

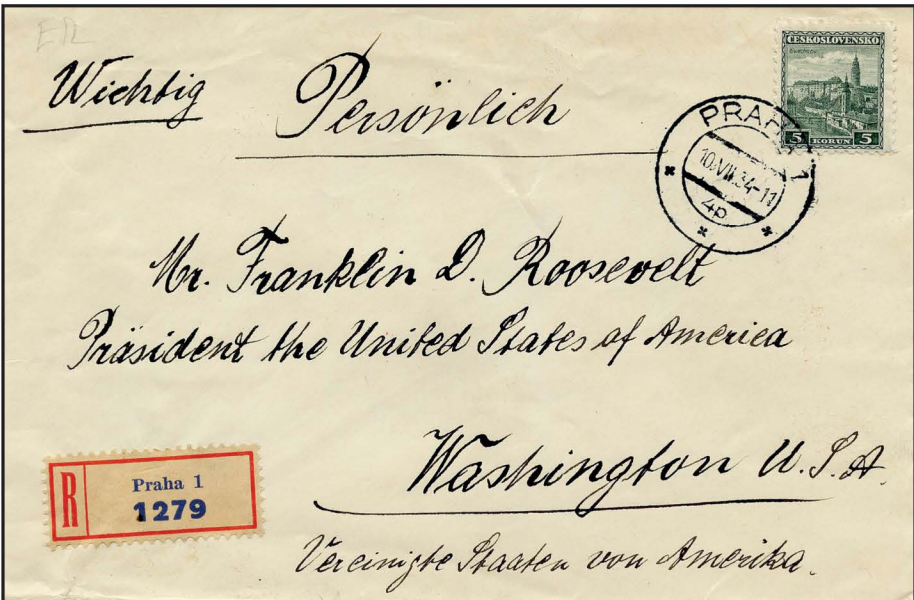


Figure 10: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Prague on 10 July 1934.

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and the high rate of 9 Kč in postage may have been intended to also pay for a return receipt, apparently requested in "Avis de reception". Although it seems likely that the letter would only have been read by mail room staff, the cover was clearly saved as part of FDR's collection as indicated by the Harmer auction backstamp.

The next cover, sent from Praha 1 on 10 July 1934 is shown in Figure 10. Note the fancy handwriting with the underlined words "Wichtig" (important) "Personlich" (personal) at the top. This is franked at the proper 5 Kč rate with a single of Scott 186 and was received in Washington DC on July 21st as indicated by the backstamp.

Addressed to "Excellency Mr. N.(?) Rosewelt" is a registered mail cover from Rimavská Sobota sent at the 5 Kč rate on 30 March 1936. This cover, shown in Figure 11a, is franked with two single Scott 214 on the front, and three more on the back, which have apparently been positioned to seal the flap of the envelope (Fig. 11b).

Also in German is the regular international mail cover seen in Figure 12, franked with a single Scott 308 and a pair of 214. This was mailed on 3 June 1936 from Olomouc in Moravia, and is addressed "An den Sehr geehrten Herrn Präsidenten Roosevelt" (to

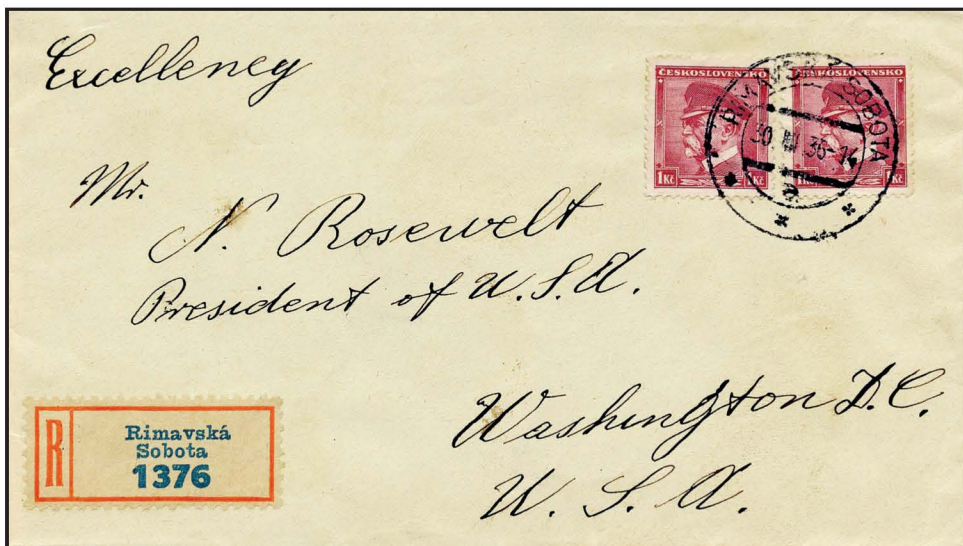


Figure 11a: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Rimavská Sobota on 30 March 1936.



Figure 11b: Cropped detail showing franking and backstamps on Rimavská Sobota cover.

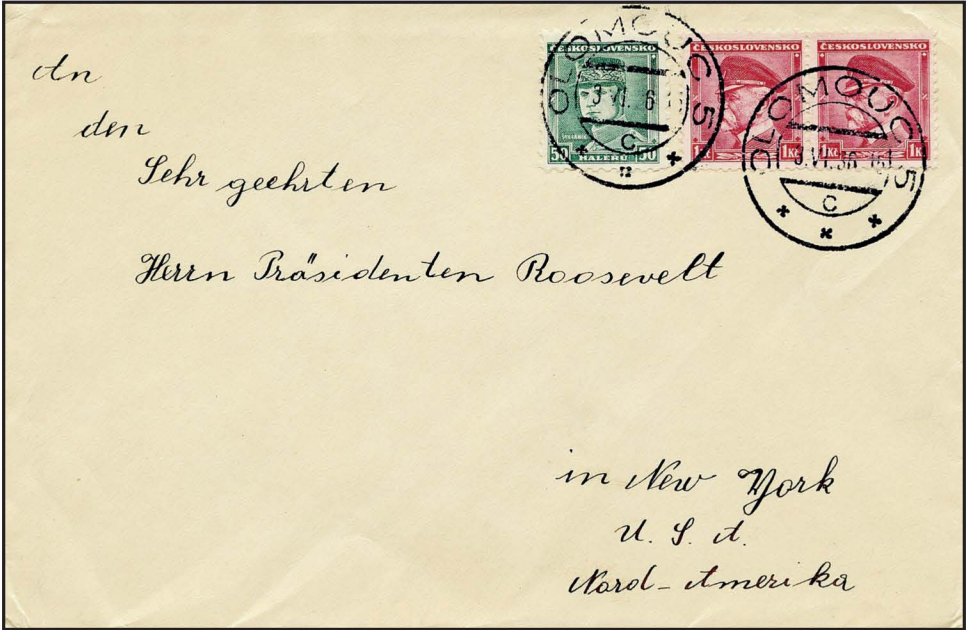


Figure 12: Ordinary mail cover sent to FDR from Olomouc on 3 June 1936.

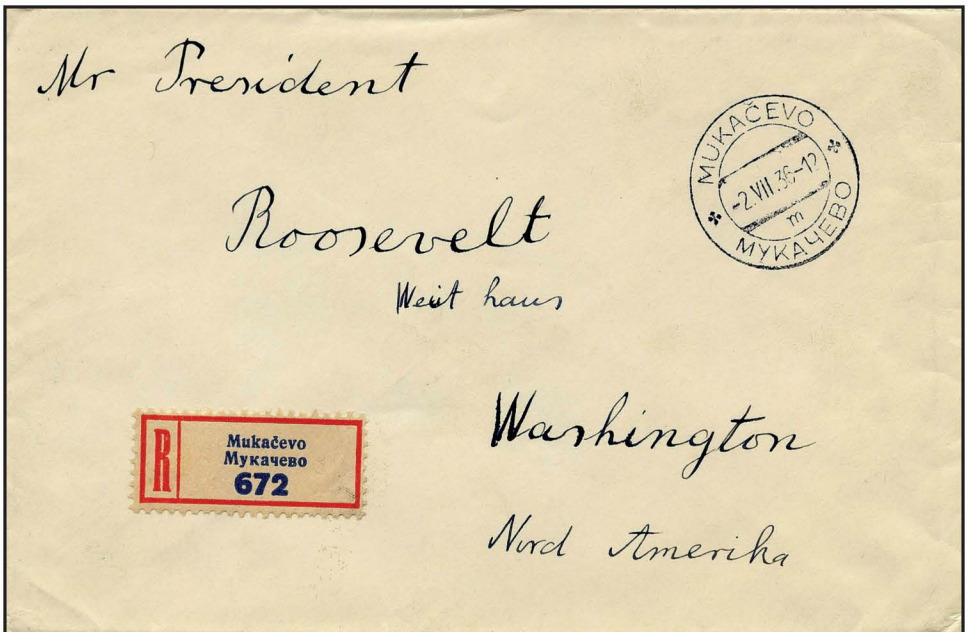


Figure 13a: Registered mail cover sent to FDR from Mukačevo on 2 July 1936.



Figure 13b: Cropped detail showing franking and backstamps on Mukačevo cover.

the very honorable Mr. President Roosevelt) in New York. The Harmer auction backstamp shows that it reached FDR in spite of being addressed to New York. Since there are no other backstamps or formal markings of redirected mail, this suggests that it was simply sent to the correct address.

The final cover is shown in Figure 13a. This is franked on the back with singles of Scott 134, 164, and 208, and was sent to FDR by Emma Knappova from Mukačevo in the Carpatho-Ukraine. The Carpatho-Ukraine was known there as “Pod-Karpatský Rus” (note the P K R. in the return address on the back standing for “Sub-Carpathian Rus”). This registered cover was sent on 2 July 1936 and received in Washington on the 14th as shown by the backstamps (Fig. 13b). Again, it seems likely that the stamps on the back were positioned to provide a security seal for the envelope’s flap.

The selection of Czechoslovak covers presented here, all mailed to FDR and saved in his personal collection, illustrate postal history from 1932-1936. These items help fill a previous gap in coverage in *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, and show contemporary usage for overseas mail of ten different regular issue postage stamps of this era on covers including five pairs and one strip of three. Each of these thirteen covers is from a different city or town, ranging from Prague and Bratislava, to tiny Mukačevo, now part of the Ukraine. Together, they suggest how widely FDR touched the lives of people around the world, and provide a glimpse back in time to the era between the two World Wars and the struggles of the Great Depression.

Acknowledgement:

The author would like to acknowledge Ludvik Svoboda for Czech language translations and many helpful comments.

References:

1. Stig Ask Lund, International Mail Rates during the Mid-War Years, *Czechoslovak Specialist*, July/August 1993, pages 6-8.

*New Issues***CZECH REPUBLIC**

by Ludvik Svoboda

1. On May 4, 2016, the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic issued a commemorative souvenir sheet for the issue "Charles IV" having one 54 Kč stamp and two coupons (Fig. 1, corrected version). The stamp portrays Charles IV, the Holy Roman Emperor and Czech King, according to a tradition based on his contemporary portraits in which realism was just awakening. [*Czech Post Note: A printing error was discovered in the Latin text in the bottom margin of the miniature sheet (outside of the stamp) that was commemorating the 700th anniversary of the birth of the Czech King and Roman Emperor Charles IV. The letter R and T in the name KAROLUS QUARTUS were mistakenly transposed to form QUATRUS. Due to the significance of Charles IV, Czech Post decided to reprint the miniature sheet in the correct way. The 54 Kč stamp has been unaffected by the typo and remains valid. The unsold miniature sheets were withdrawn from circulation, and the stamps torn from them will be used in another way for postal purposes. Thirty-five thousand new miniature sheets with the correct text are being distributed to post office counters -- while fifty-four thousand of the original version were printed, but it is not known at this time how many of these were returned. According to POFIS, the POFIS catalogue of Czech postage stamps will include both versions of the miniature sheet A 0885, each with a separate identification.*]

The entire composition refers to this great statesman, skillful diplomat, educated, cultured, wise and ambitious builder and his spiritual, cultural, and tangible legacy in a number of ways. These include the stylized initials of Charles' name from the deed of the foundation of the university in Prague used on the stamp, and the scene depicted on the main coupon where the king symbolically hands the deed of foundation to St. Wenceslas. It was also used to refer to the timeless tradition of St. Wenceslas as patron saint of Bohemia by Charles IV. The portrait is a famous work by Jindřich Parlér from St. Wenceslas Chapel in St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague. The ground plan in the background refers to the gigantic building project of the cathedral. The cathedral as well as the extensive building activities initiated by Charles IV are evoked by the architectural elements of the high Gothic supporting system which frames the miniature sheet; the two square towers bordering the lower coupon are related to his Charles Bridge. The ambitious and far-sighted project of Prague's New Town is shown in the street plan running through the entire miniature sheet. The muses playing musical instruments symbolize the refinement of all kinds of art in Charles' era. Finally, the small coupon refers to his support of agriculture and the entire economy, such as the creation of ponds and vineyards and the introduction of new fish species (barbel).

Charles IV (May 14, 1316, Prague - November 29, 1378, Prague) ruled under the name Charles I as the eleventh King of Bohemia (from July 1346 to November 1378) and under the name Charles IV as the King of Germany (1346) and Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire (1355). He was also the King of Italy (Lombardy, 1355), Burgundy (Arles, 1365), Margrave of Moravia (1333-49), and Count of Luxembourg (1346-53). He belonged to the Luxembourg dynasty, and upon coronation as King of Burgundy, he became the personal ruler of all of the kingdoms of the Holy

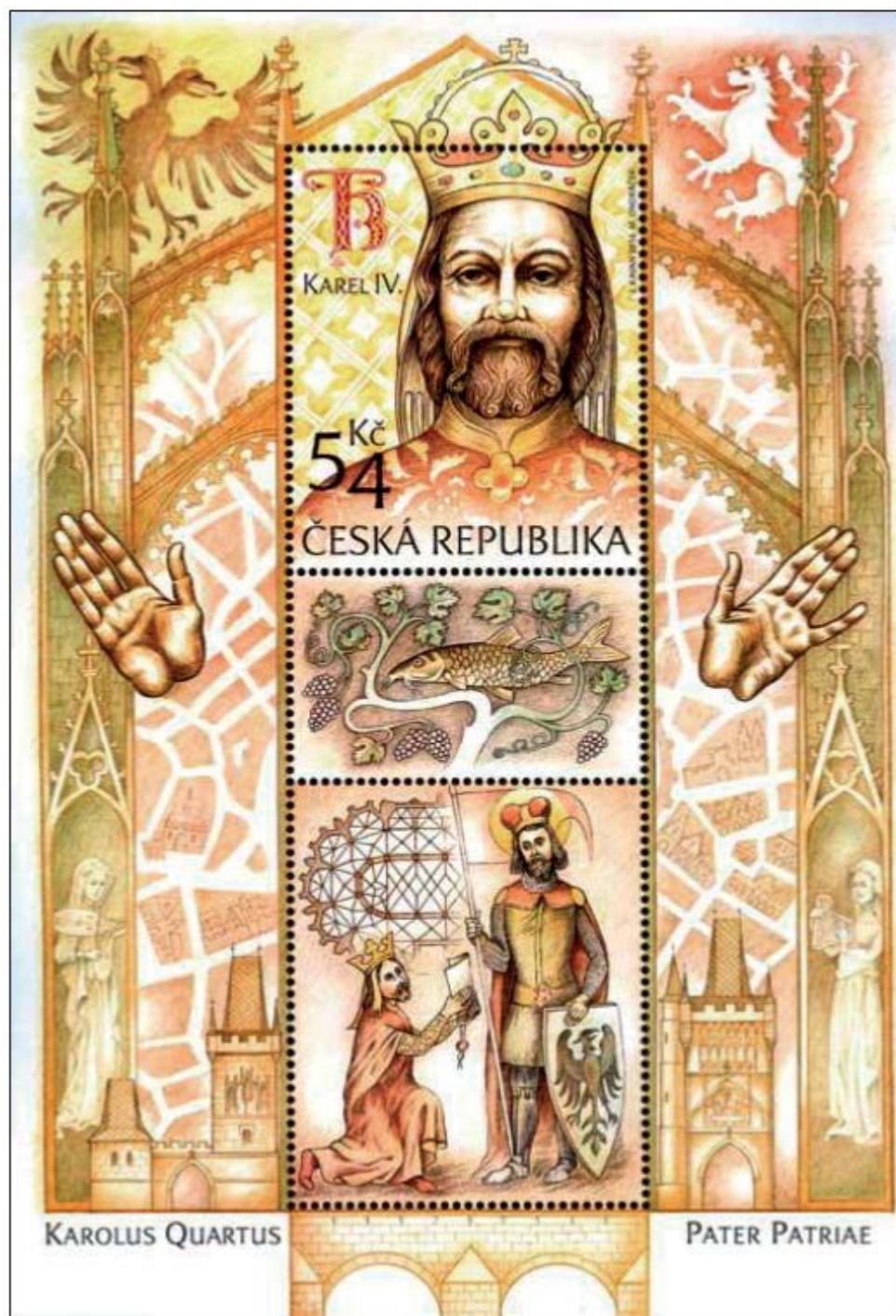


Figure 1

Roman Empire. Charles IV was the eldest son of the Přemyslid heiress Eliška (Elizabeth) and King John of Bohemia. He was originally baptized Wenceslas (Václav), but chose the name Charles at his confirmation in honor of his uncle and godfather, King Charles IV of France, at whose court he received his education.

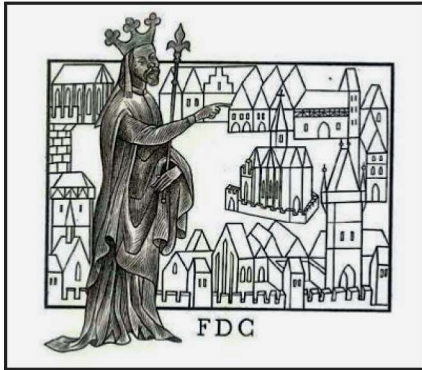


Figure 2

Charles IV belonged to the most significant rulers of the high Middle Ages. He was extraordinarily educated and intelligent and was fluent in five languages. He used his power to consolidate the Czech state, known as the Bohemian Crown since his time as the ruler. He promulgated the Golden Bull of 1356 as a supreme imperial decree regulating important aspects of the constitutional structure of the Holy Roman Empire until its end in 1806. It also regulated and confirmed the exceptional and independent position of the Czech state within the empire. As the King of Bohemia, Charles IV became famous for many prominent building and other projects, such as the foundation of the University in

Prague (named after him), construction of Prague's New Town, erection of the stone Charles Bridge across the Vltava river in Prague, and the building of Karlstejn Castle. He also achieved a significant territorial expansion of the state. The souvenir sheet and stamp were designed by Jan Kavan, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset combined with black intaglio. A FDC in brown-black showing a loose interpretation of a portrait of the king founding a town (Fig. 2).

2. On May 18, 2016, the Ministry issued a 38 Kč commemorative stamp in the Prague Castle series for Lucas Cranach (Fig. 3). The stamp depicts a detail from a fragment of a Prague altarpiece -- the right panel portraying St. Barbara. Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472 - 1553) was a great German Renaissance painter, printmaker, businessman and friend of Martin Luther. He lived a productive, fulfilling life in an era of unrest and rebellions, reformation and counter-reformation efforts. The art of this period suffered equally dramatic changes with a new visual perception of the world. Lucas Cranach was born in what is today's Bavaria to a large family. He trained as an engraver in the workshop of his father, but little more is known about his young life. Around 1495, he traveled to Nuremberg where he saw works by the German artist and engraver Albrecht Dürer, which had a lifelong effect on him. He then spent five years working in Vienna, where his works resulted in making him one of the founding members of the Danube School. In 1505, he started to work for the Saxon



Figure 3



Figure 4

Prince-Elector Friedrich III of Wittenberg as his court painter and later also as a diplomat. The prince wisely recognized his talent and decided to support him. While there, Cranach set up a prosperous workshop and became a successful businessman. In 1509, he traveled to the Netherlands to portray the Emperor Maximilian and the young boy who afterwards became Emperor Charles V. The stamp was designed and engraved by Miloš Ondráček and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using recess print from flat plates in ochre, red, rubious, gray, and black in printing sheets of four pieces. A FDC in blue-black shows his family coat of arms (Fig. 4).

3. On May 18, 2016, the Ministry issued a 16 Kč commemorative stamp for the 150th Anniversary of the Opening Night of the Bartered Bride opera (Fig. 5). The stamp depicts an opera singer in a traditional national costume. The Bartered Bride is a comic opera in three acts with music by Bedřich Smetana and a libretto by Karel Sabina. The opera was composed in 1863-66 and premiered at the Provisional Theater in Prague on May 30, 1866. Bedřich Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, the founding work of modern Czech opera, soon exceeded the domestic market and became a permanent part of the world's operatic repertoire.



Figure 5

The 20th National Theater production of this classic of Czech theater and music is, for the first time in history, to be directed by a woman. The stamps was designed by Vladimír Suchánek, engraved by Bohumil Šneider, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in black shows a likely image of the first posters inviting the audience to the performances (Fig. 6).



Figure 6

4. On May 18, 2016, the Ministry issued a stamp booklet with self-adhesive definitive stamps with imprinted letter "A" in the series For Children: Fairy Amálka (Fig. 7). The stamp depicts the fairy Amálka with a blue flower wreath in her hair. The Stories of Fairy Amálka is a 1975 Czechoslovak series of cartoons broadcast as bedtime stories. The screenplay was written by Václav Čtvrtek. The cartoons were drawn and directed by Václav Bedřich. The stamp was designed by Alex Dowis and produced



Figure 7



Figure 8

by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset in booklets of 10 pieces. A multicolored FDC depicts the fairy Amálka surrounded by butterflies (Fig. 8).

5. On June 8, 2016, the Ministry issued a non-denominated definitive stamp with labels for additional printing and with imprinted letter “A” called Flower Arrangement (Fig. 9). The stamp features a celebratory flower arrangement.



Figure 9

The stamp will be issued in an arranged printing sheet with 9 stamps and 12 labels (Fig. 10). On the 9 main labels and 3 lower labels in the bottom part of the

printing sheet are alternating different motifs of flowers and cherubs. A part of the sheets will be issued with blank labels for additional printings in accordance with the wish of the customer. The stamp was designed by Marina Richterová and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. A FDC in dark green depicts a decorated bond bouquet (Fig. 11).



Figure 10

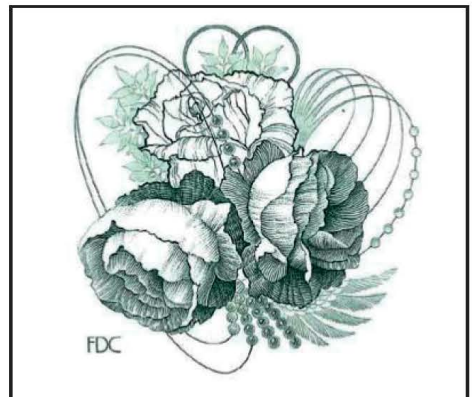


Figure 11

6. On June 22, 2016, the Ministry issued a 20 Kč commemorative stamp for the International Folklore Festival Strážnice (Fig. 12). The stamp shows a young man in a stylized folk costume from the Podluží region in one of the many figures of the “verbunk” recruit dance. This dance was performed exclusively by young men just



Figure 12

authentic folk performers gave way to amateur folk singers and dancers from urban areas who attempted to transform and stylize folklore by blending in contemporary elements and new ideas, including the rejection of folklore by modern society, and



Figure 13

entering military service. This equal combination of dancing and singing is so unique that it was placed on the list of the UNESCO cultural heritage in 2005. A major competition in “verbunk” is held at the annual folklore festival in Strážnice. The festival, called “Czechoslovakia through Dancing and Singing”, was held for the first time from July 5-7, 1946. From the beginning, it was conceived as a national event although its origin is inseparable from the development of regional folklore movements. During 1946-48, the program was dominated by group performances from villages from all over Czechoslovakia, with examples of customs, songs, and dances without any meddling by a director or other persons. The emphasis was placed on the purity of costumes, originality of performances, diversity, and attractiveness. After 1948, the performances took on a staged character, reflecting the changes in political conditions such as the collectivization of agriculture. Au-

to an artistic stagnation of folklore groups. A breakthrough came in 1957 with clearly defined themes, the creation of a children’s festival, the renewal of competitions, and the introduction of foreign groups -- giving the festival an international flavor which has been maintained until today. The stamp was designed by Anna Khunivá, engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black, blue and red in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC shows a girl from Strážnice carrying a bowl of koláče -- gastronomy is another part of the festival (Fig. 13).

7. On June 22, 2016, the Ministry issued a 32 Kč commemorative stamp for The Czech Olympic Team (Fig. 14). The stamp depicts a woman runner jumping a hurdle.



Figure 14

The 2016 Summer Olympics, officially known as the Games of the XXXI Olympiad, and commonly known as Rio 2016, are a major international multi-sport event. The sporting events will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with the opening ceremony scheduled for 5 August 2016 -- the closing ceremony is planned for 21 August. There will be 306 events in 28 sports taking place across 35 venues situated mainly on the outskirts of the west region of Rio. Rio de Janeiro will become the first South Amer-



Figure 15

ican city to host the Summer Olympics. The games will feature 28 sports including golf and rugby sevens as new sports. The stamp was designed by Miloš Jaroš and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multi-colored offset in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in blue depicts disciplines of the Modern Pentathlon (Fig. 15).

sportsman in a wheelchair. In the Czech Republic, disabled athletes are registered in athletic clubs including around 18 thousand members. The best of them will take part in the Summer Paralympic Games held in Rio de Janeiro on September 7-18, 2016. Paralympic games are the supreme competition for top athletes with different disabilities. The core philosophy of the paralympic movement is that these world-class



Figure 16

athletes have equal abilities and skill as non-disabled athletes. The first paralympic games were held in Rome in 1960 and were attended by 400 athletes from 23 countries. The previous games were held in London in 2012 and were attended by 4,200 athletes from 166 countries. The Czech team won 11 medals. The stamp was designed by Milan Jaroš and was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in blue depicts selected disciplines of the XV Summer Paralympic Games (Fig. 17).



Figure 17



Figure 18

9. On June 22, 2016, the Ministry issued a 27 Kč commemorative stamp with coupon in honor of Jan Jessenius (Fig. 18). This is a joint Czech-Hungarian-Polish-Slovak issue. On the stamp is Jan Jessenius from the artwork used for his portrait by Lucas Kilian in 1618. Jan Jessenius (December 27, 1566, Wroclaw, Silesia -- June 21, 1621, Prague) was a Slovak physician, politician, and philosopher. He played a significant political and scientific role in Czech history. His father, Baltazar, came from an old Hungarian noble family, House of

Jeszzenszky, originally from Turec in today's Slovakia. He studied philosophy and medicine at the universities of Wittenberg and Leipzig, and medicine at the famous University of Padua. In 1591, he earned a doctorate in medicine for his work "On Biliary Diseases during Three-Day Chills" and a doctorate in philosophy for his work "On the Right of People to Resist Tyrants." As a non-catholic, he could not earn a doctorate directly from the University of Padua, but on recommendation from the professors he was declared a doctor of philosophy and medicine in Prague by the imperial grand almsgiver. He then worked as a physician and became a professor of surgery and anatomy at the University in Wittenberg -- then becoming the dean of the medical faculty and chancellor of the university. The level of the medical faculty greatly improved during his tenure. In 1600, he performed the first public autopsy in the Czech lands. His notes on the autopsy were later published, but the autopsy caused controversy. The scientific community received it with enthusiasm while the lay public denounced it. One of his critics described Jessenius as a man who quartered people only to be quartered himself. In 1601 -- now in Prague -- he worked as the emperor's personal physician. His interest in politics grew because of the support by Rudolf II to the anti-protestant movement. After the lost battle of White Mountain and suppression of the uprising of the Czech estates, Jessenius as one of the leaders of the uprising was accused of insulting the imperial majesty. On the emperor's order, he was arrested. During the notorious execution of the 27 leaders of the Czech estates on the Old Town Square, the executioner Jan Mydlár first cut out Jessenius' tongue and then beheaded him. The body was then taken to the Horská gate in the direction of Kutná Hora where it was quartered and woven through the spokes of the wheel. His head and a piece of his tongue, together with the heads of further eleven leaders of the uprising, were displayed in a prominent place of the Old Town Tower for ten years. The remaining parts of Jessenius' body were never found. The stamp with the coupon of the same size was designed by Vladislav Rostoka and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black, beige, blue, and red in printing sheets of 25 pieces. A FDC depicts a hand with astrological symbols expressing a universe in a human (Fig. 19).

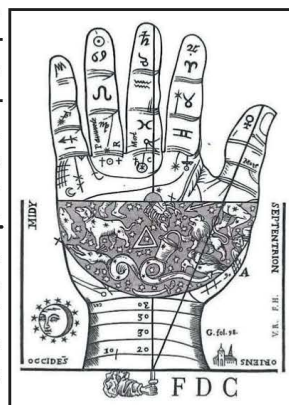


Figure 19

Stationery

10. On March 3, 2016, the Ministry issued a special postal card with an imprinted letter-denominated "E" stamp with an invitation to the International Stamp Exhibition Munich 2016 to be held March 3-5, 2016 in Munich (Fig. 20). The imprinted E-stamp contains a horse-drawn passenger wagon. Illustrated on the postal card is a motif of a period typewriter by Irena Vyčítalová along with information about the Exhibition. The postal card will be available in Munich during the Stamp Fair at the Czech Post exhibition stand and other special locations. The additional printing is made by multicolored offset.

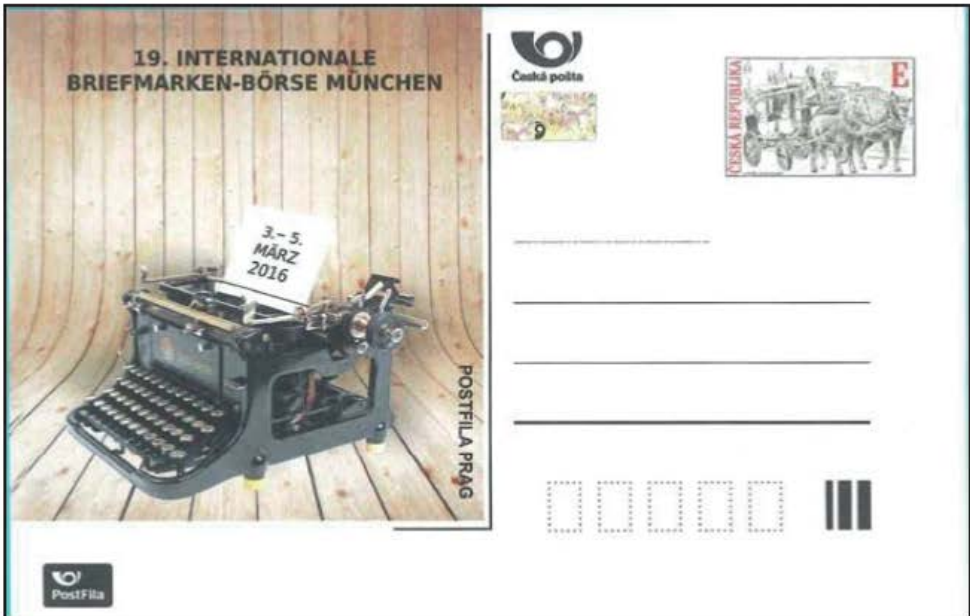


Figure 20

11. On May 12, 2016, the Ministry issued a special postal card with an imprinted letter-denominated “E” stamp with an invitation to the International Stamp Exhibition Essen 2016 to be held May 12-14, 2016 in Essen (Fig. 21). Illustrated



Figure 21

on the postal card is a composition of a graphic work (collage) made by Irena Vyčítalová based on the periods means of Air Post (a motif of an airship, hot air balloons, and a homing pigeon) with information about the Exhibition. The postal card will be available in Essen during the Stamp Fair at the Czech Post exhibition stand and other special locations. The additional printing is made by multicolored offset.

12. On June 8, 2016, the Ministry issued the 23rd set of 8 picture postal cards with motifs of historical postal buildings in the Czech Republic. Each card is issued with an imprinted letter-denominated “A” stamp -- Coat of Arms by Bedřich Housa. The historical postal buildings depicted with their address and card number are:

-- PÍSEK, Žižkova třída 270/2, A 233/2016 -- the building of the post and telegraph office opened on Oct. 23, 1899, with Renaissance, Baroque, and Classicism inspired elements. (Fig. 22)

-- PLZEŇ, Solní 259/20, A234/2016 -- the neo-Renaissance building of the post and telegraph office built between 1893-1895. (Fig. 23)

-- KARLOVY VARY, T.G. Masaryka 449, A235/2016 -- the building of the post and telegraph office erected in 1900-1903 in the German Renaissance style. (Fig. 24)

-- KRNOV, nám. Minoritu 11, A236/2016 -- the building of the post and telegraph office erected in 1911-1913. (Fig. 25)

-- JABLONEC NAD NISOU, Liberecká 32/2 -- the building of the post and telegraph office erected in 1892-1893 in the neo-Renaissance style. (Fig. 26)

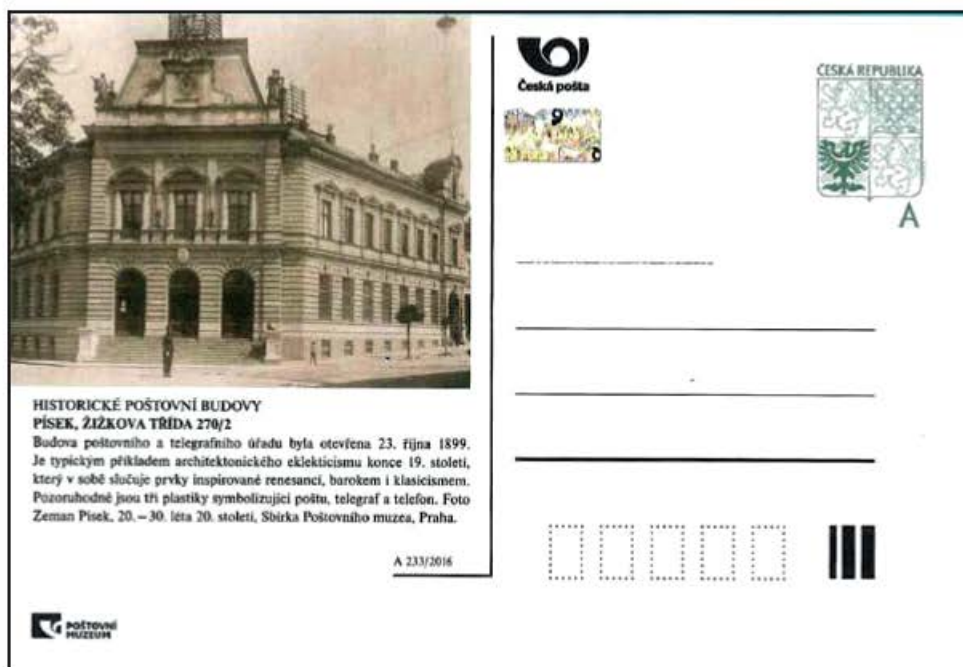


Figure 22



Figure 23



Figure 24



Figure 25



Figure 26

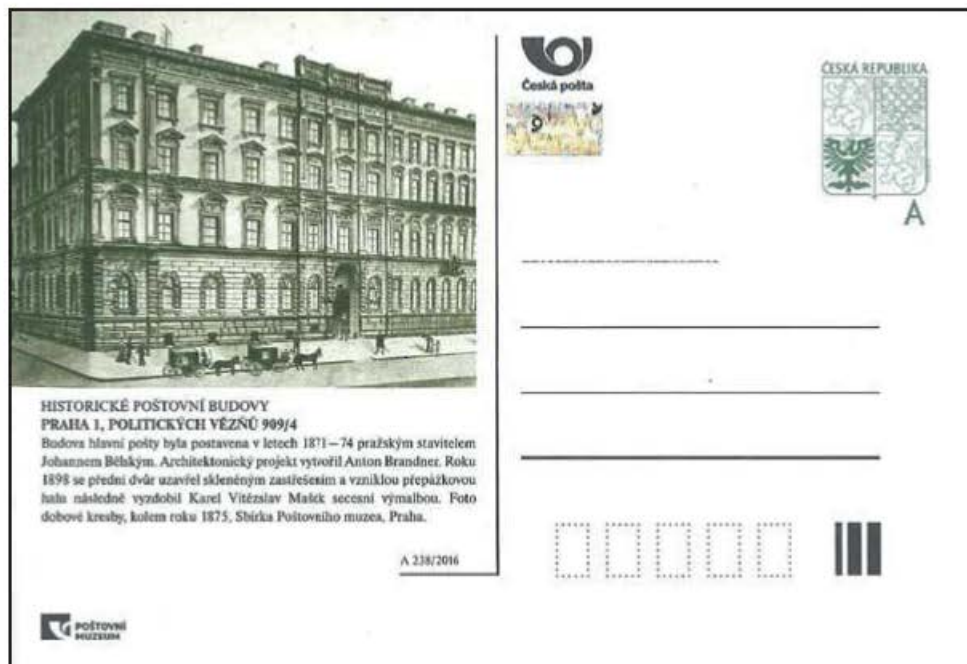


Figure 27



Figure 28

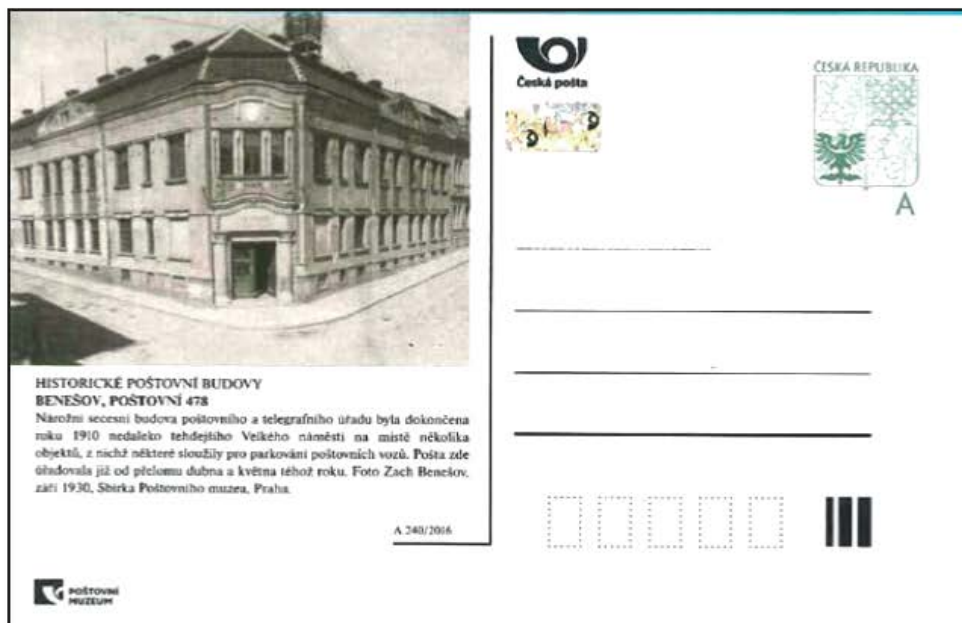


Figure 29

-- PRAHA 1, Politických vězňů 909/4 -- the building of the Main Post Office erected in 1871-1874. (Fig. 27)

-- MARIÁNSKÉ LÁZNĚ, Poštovní 160/17 -- the representative building of the post and telegraph office, earlier bathhouse (until 1912). (Fig. 28)



Figure 30

-- BENEŠOV, Poštovní 478 -- the corner Art Nouveau building of the post and telegraph office. (Fig. 29)

Printed by multicolored offset by the Post Printing House, Prague.

13. On June 22, 2016, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with an imprinted letter-denominated "A" stamp for the "2016 Mountain Bike World Championships" to be held in Nové Mešto na Moravě (Fig. 30). The definitive A-stamp depicts mountain bikes in blue and red. The postal card depicts a graphic illustration of two competitors on mountain bikes. The postal card was designed by Iveta Holešová and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset.

SLOVAKIA

by Ludvik Svoboda

14. On June 3, 2016, the Ministry of Transport, Posts, and Telecommunications issued a T2 50g denominated commemorative stamp with or without a coupon for



Figure 31

personalization entitled Philately (Fig. 31). The stamp depicts an image of the carrier pigeon "Oplaško". The development of youth philately in Slovakia is one of the priorities of Slovenská Pošta, which seeks to stimulate postage stamp collecting in Slovakia. Slovenská Pošta has carried out activities mainly concentrating on postage stamp design competitions for children, a good example of this is the annual competition Christmas Mail. This year's challenge for children aptly named "Philately" is completely different. It should attract children from the first grade to postage stamp collecting through the

original fairy tale about the carrier pigeon "Oplaško". Through its mission focused on delivery of top-secret messages, it frees its mother, the world record holding racing pigeon, from captivity. Thus, this irresponsible and untidy ordinary pigeon becomes a famous carrier pigeon that attracts a new generation of candidates to this disappearing craft. This, in a nutshell, is the basic message of the fairy tale from the most important Slovak storyteller of our time, Branislav Jobus. The stamp with coupon was designed by Katarína Macurová and produced by the Postal Printing House of Securities in Prague by offset in printing sheets of 8 stamps and 8 coupons (Fig. 32) but also in a printing sheet of 50 stamps (with no coupons). The standard coupon celebrates 90 years of radio broadcasting and 60 years of television broadcasting.



Figure 32

15. On June 22, 2016, the Ministry issued a 0.90€ commemorative stamp with coupon for the 450th Anniversary of the Birth of Jan Jessenius (1566 - 1621)(Fig. 33).



Figure 33

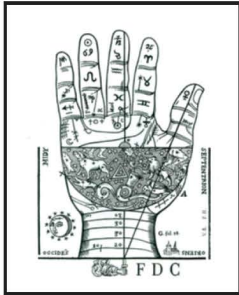


Figure 34

This is a joint Slovak/Czech/Hungarian/Polish issue. The postage stamp is an engraving of the period copperplate portrait of Jan Jessenius by the Nuremberg engraver Lucas Kylian in 1618. The coupon takes the form of the title page of his book “Anatomy” which contains a description of his famous Prague autopsy, published in 1601 in Wittenberg. At that time his lectures on anatomy were very progressive. As a Lutheran he was strongly committed to the defense of the Evangelical faith, and became one of the leaders of the anti-Habsburg movement of the Bohemian estates. In 1618 he traveled to Hungary as a diplomat, where he tried to influence the Hungarian estates to not vote for King Ferdinand of Habsburg. He was arrested and imprisoned. The uprising of the Bohemian estates was suppressed at the Battle of White Mountain in 1621, which was followed by cruel reprisals. Jessenius was accused of rebellion and insulting the crown and was sentenced to death. His execution was particularly brutal -- his tongue was cut out, then he was beheaded, and finally his body was quartered. His head along with those of 11 Czech lords was displayed as a warning on the terrace of Old Town Tower in Prague for over 10 years.

The stamp was designed by Vladislav Rostoka, engraved by František Horniak, and produced by the Postal Printing House of Securities, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with gravure in printing sheets of 25 stamps and 25 coupons. A FDC is based on a woodcut from the early 17th century, the imprint is a section of the hand including the astrological symbolism of human anatomy (Fig. 34).

16. On July 1, 2016, the Ministry issued a 1.40€ commemorative stamp for The Presidency of the Slovak Republic in the Council of the European Union (Fig. 35). The stamp was designed by Peter Biľak and produced by Kasico, Bratislava using offset in printing sheets of 36 pieces.



Figure 35

17. On July 8, 2016, the Ministry issued a 1.00€ commemorative stamp with coupon for the XXXI Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro depicting a female shooting competitor (Fig. 36). The International Olympic Committee decided that Rio de Janeiro would be the first South American and second Latin American country (after Mexico City 1968) to host the Olympic Games.



Figure 36



Figure 37

These Olympics will be held from August 5-21, 2016 in Rio and six other Brazilian cities. It is expected that 10,500 athletes from 206 invited countries will compete in 28 sports. The opening ceremony, the final of the football tournament, and the closing ceremony will be held in the Maracana stadium. Its fully

seated capacity of 87,000 ranks in 22nd place in the list of the largest stadiums in the world. Slovaks will send 40 athletes to Rio. The stamp was designed by Karol Felix and produced by the Postal Printing House of Securities, Prague using offset in printing sheets of 30 stamps and 20 coupons. A FDC shows a female shooter ejecting a shell-casing from her cracked open weapon (Fig. 37).

18. On July 8, 2016, the Ministry issued a 1.00€ commemorative stamp for the XV Summer Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro which depicts a ping-pong player in a wheelchair in joyous expression with the Rio statue of Christ behind him (Fig. 38). The XV Paralympic Games will be held September 7-18, 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This will be the first time that both the Olympic and Paralympic games will be held together in South America.



Figure 38



Figure 39

This will be the 6th time that Slovak athletes will be participating in the Paralympic Games. Slovakia debuted at the Paralympic Games in Atlanta (1996) with 11 medals, then Sydney (2000) with 13 medals, and then Athens (2004) where the Slovak anthem was heard 5 times in honor of the winners. The most successful Slovak Paralympian was Ján Riapos with 4 gold and one silver medal. Table tennis, cycling, and shooting are Slovakia's most successful sports. The stamp was designed by Igor Piačka and produced by the Postal Printing House of Securities, Prague, using offset in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC depicts an archer in a wheelchair (Fig. 39).



Figure 40

19. On July 23, 2016, the Ministry issued a 1.20€ commemorative stamp for the 101st World Congress of Esperanto taking place July 23-30, 2016 in Nitra, Slovakia (Fig. 40). This prestigious event which annually attracts thousands of people from around the world takes place in Slovakia for the first time in history and is dedicated to the theme "Social Justice -- Linguistic Justice". During the Congress no interpreter will be required -- the whole program will be in Esperanto. The

use of an international language removes language barriers and builds communication at a single level, without favoring any mother tongue. Esperanto is known worldwide as a language which can be learned in a third of the time required for other national languages. Why is this so? It uses the rule "write as you hear", which is especially relevant for Slovak, with a free word order and simple grammar, without exceptions. The author of the basic structure of Esperanto was a Polish ophthalmologist, L. L. Zamenhof (1859-1917). The stamp was designed by Igor Benca and produced by the Postal Printing House of Securities, Prague, using offset in a printing sheet of 50 pieces. A FDC depicts four participants in a field of Nitra cross-communicating (Fig. 41).



Figure 41

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1. Publication Title: Te Czechoslovak Specialist, **2. Publication No.:** 0526-5843, **3. Filing Date:** Jul. 30, 2016, **4. Issue Frequency:** Quarterly, **5. No. of Issues Published Annually:** 4, **6. Annual Subscription Price:** \$25.00, **7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication:** 11 1/2 N. Washington St., Shippensburg, PA 17257, Contact Person: Nancy Godfrey, Tele. 717-530-8818, **8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters:** 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, **9. Names and Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor:** Publisher: Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015; Editor: Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015; Managing Editor: (same as above), **10. Owner:** Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, **11. Known Bondholders:** None. **12. The purpose, function, and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:** Has not changed during preceding 12 months, **13. Publication Name:** The Czechoslovak Specialist, **14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below:** 30 July, 2016, **15. Extent and Nature of Circulation:**

a. Total No. Of Copies (net press run): Average No. Copies Preceding 12 months: 300; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 300; **b. Paid Circulation (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 – Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 196; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 194; (2) Mailed In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 – Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution – Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS – Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 36; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 35; c. Total Paid Distribution: Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 232; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 229; d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: (1) Outside County as Stated on Form 3541 -- Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 12; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 11; (2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541 – Average No. Copies During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS – Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 12; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 12; (4). Free Distribution Outside the Mail: Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; e. Total Free Distribution: Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 24; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 23; f. Total Distribution: Average no. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 256; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 252; g. Copies Not Distributed: Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 44; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 48; h. Total: Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 300; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 300; i. Percent Paid: Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 91%; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 91%, **16. a. Paid Electronic Copies: Ave. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 23; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 23; b. Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies: Ave. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 255; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 252; c. Total Print Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies: Ave. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 279; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 275; d. Percent Paid: Ave. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 92%; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 92%. **17. Publication of Statement of Ownership:** X Publication required. Will be printed in the Summer 2016 issue of this publication. **17.** I certify that all information furnished on this form is true/complete. Ludvik Z. Svoboda, Editor, 30 Jul. 2016****