



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 an anonymous donor.

A.P.S. Unit 18

ISSN: 0526-5843

Vol. 81

WINTER 2019

No. 1, Whole No. 655

SOCIETY'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

The Society for Czechoslovak Philately came into being during an extremely dark time in Czechoslovak history. In October 1938 Nazi Germany had annexed the Sudetenland. On March 15, 1939 they invaded the remainder of the country. A compliant government of Slovakia saved itself from occupation by approving a non-aggression "agreement" with Hitler. Bohemia and Moravia became a Protectorate of Germany and with the establishment of the Slovak Republic, Czechoslovakia had ceased to exist.

Collectors of Czechoslovakia stamps suddenly had nothing new to collect. In New York a group of collectors, led by Josef Lowey, met to discuss how they could continue their interest in the stamps of a country that had barely existed for 20 years. Discussions must have also pondered on how they could support their relations and friends that remained in the stricken country. It was decided to form The Czecho-Slovak Philatelic Society of North America and in May 1939 the first issue of *The Czecho-Slovak Specialist* was published. On page 3 of that issue a short article, reproduced below, set out their defiant attitude.

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Here is a list of all benefits to which SCP 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 Chris Jackson. Depending on the nature or substance of the item to be expertized, he will direct you to the appropriate source for expertization. Please contact Chris Jackson. (See address below or email cjstamps72@gmail.com).
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 Keith Hart (see address/email below).
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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(ISSN 0526-5843)

Official Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc.

A.P.S. Unit 18

Vol. 81

WINTER 2019

No. 1, Whole No. 655

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

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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.*

SOCIETY'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

(Continued from Page 1)

PHILATELY AND POLITICS

Philately and politics should not mix. However, another democracy – the one to whose postal issues our Society is dedicated – has suffered a tragic loss. Regardless of whether we have been born in that country, or born in North America, we should join the entire right-thinking world in deep mourning over the tragedy of Czecho-Slovakia. No, philately and politics should not mix, but not only for philatelic reasons, but primarily for reasons of heart- let us hope that Czecho-Slovakia will be resurrected.

Those founding fathers of the Society managed to keep that interest in the philately of the region alive. Despite further political upheavals in the 80 years that have followed, the Czech and Slovak Republics have succeeded in retaining our interest in these two small countries in Central Europe. Long may that continue.

The initial officers of the Society were George F. Smyth, Fred W. Peters, J.W. Lowey, Guy Greenawalt, J.M. Stephen, Tod Raper, Frank Kovarik, and C.J. Pearce. Our thanks to them and the other founding members for their faith in establishing the Society and Journal. I trust we can be worthy successors who continue to uphold the impressive ideals and standards they set us.

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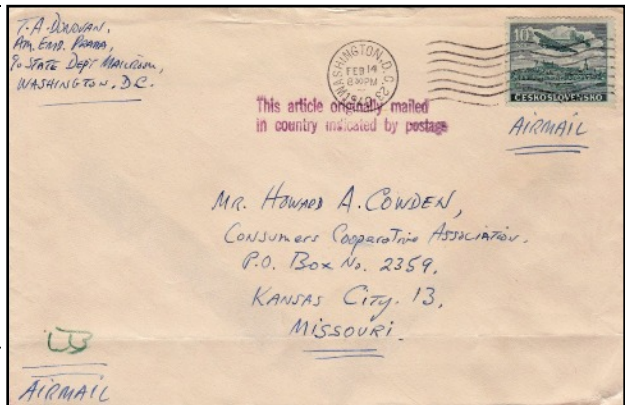
POSTAGE STAMP FROM ONE COUNTRY; CANCELLATION FROM ANOTHER

by Keith Hart

The cover shown here originated from the U.S. Embassy, Prague in 1949. Its destination being Kansas City, MO. It was mailed with a 10 Kčs Czechoslovak stamp, but was not cancelled until it arrived in Washington, DC. The letter could have been mailed directly in the ordinary mail of the Czechoslovak Post in which case a 5 Kčs stamp would have sufficed. However, it was mailed through the postal service of the diplomatic corps. It was transported by diplomatic courier to the State Department in Washington where it was transferred to the main Post Office in Washington, where it received a regular cancellation and date stamp.

To identify it as a valid postal item an additional purple stamp "This article originally mailed in country indicated by postage" has been added beneath the cancellation.

Sources: 1. The cover is used courtesy of Ludvik Z. Svoboda. 2. Czechoslovak Postal Rates Prior to October 19, 1992, *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, March/April 1993, p.22.



CZECHOSLOVAKS IN ENGLAND DURING WORLD WAR II

by Richard G. Palaschak

Sometimes the pursuit of information to better understand one philatelic item leads you to unexpected information about another.



Fig. 1

I was trying to find more information about the addressee on a newspaper wrapper (Fig. 1) that was mailed through the Czechoslovak Field Post in England during WWII. The addressee is the Czechoslovak State Elementary School at Maesfen Hall, Malpas, Cheshire. As information flowed back to me from various sources, both in England and here in the U.S., a fellow member of the Slovak American Society of Washington (SASW) advised me to speak with Juraj Slavik, also a member of SASW. Juraj's father held numerous ministerial level cabinet responsibilities in the Czechoslovak government before and during the war.

During an event at the Slovak Embassy in Washington, I introduced myself and told Mr. Slavik of my search for information on the school. It turns out that he

was a student in the Czechoslovak Secondary School at Hinton Hall during the war, but knew little about the elementary school. However, that's when the conversation took an unexpected twist. He very proudly informed me that his uncle, Ján Slávik, is the stamp collector portrayed on the 1942 Slovenský Štát issue celebrating the National Postage Stamp Exhibition in Bratislava that year (Fig. 2). Though not a philatelic "Wow," it is information that I had never seen or heard of before that moment and it put a personal touch to that stamp.

Now that I knew someone with knowledge of the Czechoslovak Government-in-Exile in England during WWII, I decided to request a meeting so that I might glean additional information from him. Juraj agreed, and I went to his condo with my albums of the Czechoslovak military forces in England in my briefcase to gain any tidbits of information that he could offer. One of my questions had to do with a letter and newspaper wrapper addressed to "General



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

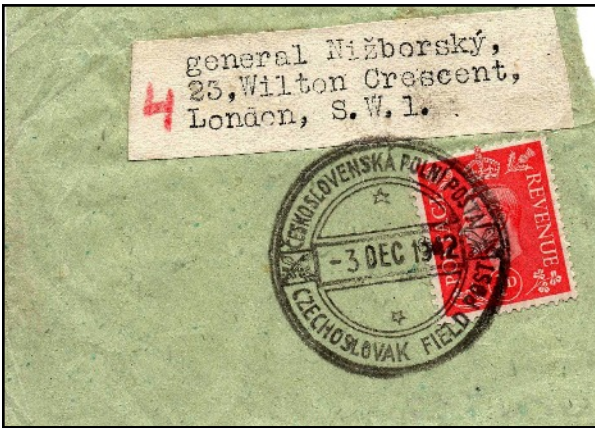


Fig. 4

Ant. Nižborský” (Figs. 3 and 4). I couldn’t locate any information on this General despite his impressive title on the letter- Chief of Military Offices of the President of the Republic. Juraj quickly apprised me why I had been unsuccessful in my search. Nižborský was an alias used by General Antonín Hasal, who was an aide to President Beneš. His family had been interned in Svatobořice Camp in Kyjov, Moravia, so he used an alias to protect them. General Hasal was born in Nová Huť pod Nižborem. It is a small suburb of Nižbor, a town along the Beroun River, about 30 kilometers west of Prague. His chosen alias, “Nižborský”, clearly reflects his ties to his childhood home. This “discovery” has prompted me to learn more about this General who rose to the top of the Czechoslovak military. Philately has a way of forcing you to learn more about history, doesn’t it?



New Members

The following new members have joined the Society recently.

- #2186. William Maddocks, Itasca, IL
- #2187. Calvin Deem, Tulsa, OK
- #2188. Thomas Healey, Novi, MI
- #2189. Michael Zolno, Phoenix, AZ
- #2190. Toni Lumsden, Castlemaine, Victoria, Australia
- #2191. Tamaki Saito, Yachiyo, Chibaken, Japan
- #2192. Anthony Moore, Summerfield, NC

Welcome to the Society. You are reminded that whatever you collect, we probably have a member who is one of the foremost experts in that field. If you have any queries about any aspect of the philately from Czech, Slovak, Moravian, Silesian, and the Carpatho-Ukrainian lands, please contact us. The *Specialist* can be your conduit towards greater understanding and enjoyment.

MEMORIES OF MAX ŠVABINSKÝ

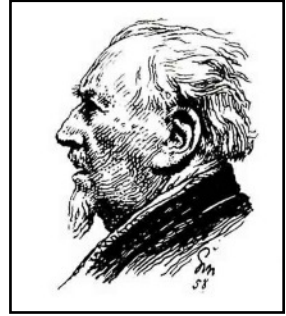
by Jindra Schmidt
trans. by Lucie Harris

I have written this Memories of Max Švabinský to pay respect to him and in admiration of this great artist that I was privileged to work with as an engraver.

These are minor incidents while doing the engraving work and memories directly associated with this work.

I beg the reader to receive my modest lines kindly. I recorded them for a circle of Max Švabinský's admirers and friends, and also for my friends.

Jindra Schmidt



Whenever I see the graphic sheet that Max Švabinský gave me on the occasion of my 60th birthday, I can't hold back the memories of the beautiful moments experienced during our work together on engravings of banknotes and later also postage stamps.

I started to work with professor Švabinský during the time of the First Republic when I used to go to his atelier at the Academy of Fine Arts at Letná, and -- in the final years -- to his apartment in Dejvice. The trip to Švabinský and the visit with him was always a holiday for me. At first I came to him with hesitancy, not knowing if he would be satisfied with my work. My first visits were related with corrections to the engravings of banknotes that I was creating for the printing works of the National Bank of Czechoslovakia.

I recall how my predecessor -- banknotes engraver Karel Volf -- was always going to Švabinský with great apprehensions about his corrections. He mentioned several times that he could not sleep the day before the visit, and so when I went for the first time to show him my line drawings, I was apprehensive about his critique. However, my trip home was quite joyous since Švabinský was satisfied with my drawing. From that time our teamwork became more and more frequent. After 1945, when the Post consistently sought out Švabinský as a proposer of



FDC for Vaniček and Scheiner stamps



FDC for the stamp "Ten Years of the World Peace Movement"

mainly portrait postage stamps, I worked with the professor continuously.

After the end of World War II, the Czechoslovak Post issued stamps which were designed and engravingly rendered by three graphic artists working together. As chance would have it, we all had German names: Jaroslav Goldschmied, Antonín Erhardt, and Jindřich Schmidt. Somebody at the Ministry pointed out that people abroad would think that our stamps are being still created by surviving Germans. Therefore, we decided that under the engraver of the postage stamp would be the first name and first letter of the last name: Jindra S.

When I showed copies of the first stamps signed Jindra S. to master Švabinský, he asked me for an explanation. He was angry with me. He thought I should not have done that since Czechoslovakia was in the heart of Europe where nations blend.

In addition, he pointed out the current personalities of our government who also had German names, and it did not matter to them. He said, "Your name was already known, and now in effect you have to completely start all over". Then I answered him -- if I will do it well, the name that I will use to sign postage stamps I hope will also become known.

The engraving of postage stamps was very interesting to me, and I was very glad that professor Švabinský chose me to accomplish them. We spent considerable time together deliberating various designs. Professor Švabinský, an experienced graphic designer and engraver, had many good comments, and from his advice I learned much for my later work.

I remember once that Švabinský was asserting his viewpoint on the direction of lines on the forehead of a subject being portrayed. As he wished, I had my first drawing photographed, and then I changed the direction of the lines. I brought the drawing back to show him. Švabinský carefully examined the corrected drawing and compared it with the first variety in the photograph. He then declared: "You know, Schmidt, let's leave it the way you made it in the beginning. I think we are just fooling around unnecessarily."

When I brought prints of the engraving for approval, he showed me a spot on the print that to him seemed too light. He couldn't point it out accurately with his shaking hand, and I -- looking at a second print -- did not see anything on it. Not until I compared both prints at the same time did I see that the print Švabinský was looking at had



Maafarin: Man's Nadost.
Švabinský
 19.1.48.

Very nice, I'm happy. 1.19.48



FDC for Sokol tribute to the Republic stamps

one line in the print grubbed out, and thus a lighter spot was created. I admired the master's excellent vision which -- even though he was looking at the print without a magnifying glass -- he spotted even this insignificant defect. He always showed admiration for my work only after a careful examination of the drawing or engraving. Only then did he say his favorite expression: "Schmidt, you are a big ape!" Then I knew he was highly satisfied.

Švabinský spent his time working on a woodcut of the president of the republic. I used to go to his atelier and provide him with progressive handmade prints from his unfinished woodcut for further corrections. At the same time I helped him to engrave the letters and the laurel decorations around the picture. Švabinský used to stand above me for long moments and watch me work. When I raised my head and looked at him, he said: "You know, Schmidt, I am waiting patiently, and I would rejoice greatly if you would make a mistake, but you do not!" He gladly told stories about his beginnings in woodcutting and remembered his teacher of this graphic technique, Eduard Karel, who was at that time the leading supervisor at the Unie print works where the first Czechoslovak postage stamps were printed.



The Ministry of Posts issued three stamps on the occasion of the 11th Sokol Slet [gathering] -- the Sokol's tribute to the Republic, and portraits of Mr. Vaníček and Mr. Scheiner. Švabinský drew the first stamp -- the embodiment of the Republic. When he had the design ready for engraving, Jan Štenc, the current owner of the graphic design enterprise, visited him in his studio -- they were very good friends.

*výbor národního
sletu a záměru
na slet
je sčítán.
31.3.48 M. Švabinský
Májové lidové slety a 1. Jaro
vstoupila v sílu.*

[Can't make it out]



FDC for Kroměříž Assembly stamps

Švabinský showed him his design and asked that it be engraved. At that point Štenc proclaimed that it was impossible to engrave it in the size of a postage stamp. All unhappy, Professor Švabinský called to inform me of this and to ask me to come see the design in order to give him my opinion. I immediately left for the Academy, and after examining the draft, I promised that I would prepare it as an engraving. During the entire time of my work, Švabinský impatiently waited to see how it was going to turn out. When I brought the drawing for approval, he said: “Well, the drawing is good, but now to engrave it.”

While I worked on the engraving, I was looking forward to showing a print to Štenc, in order to convince him it was possible to engrave it. Štenc, however, never got to see the engraving, he died while I was working on it. After I showed the print to Švabinský, he was very happy, which was shown by his adding in writing: “Very nice, I am happy.” I think this success was critical for my subsequent work. From that time, Švabinský always asked for only me to implement his designs.

After the Sokol stamps followed the “Kroměříž Assembly” stamps, and then mainly the yearly issued stamps to honor some cultural personalities.

Different philatelists sent me stamps to be signed by Švabinský which I would bring when I would go visit him. He was always happy to comply, and sometimes when I did not bring anything to sign, when I was leaving he would ask: “You don’t have anything to sign?”

Once I brought him a whole group of first day covers to be signed. Before Švabinský signed them, he looked at them carefully, and at one -- which was not my engraving -- he asked why I had not engraved that one. I explained that I would not have



been able to finish it on time, so the head of the office of postal production had to assign it to someone else. The envelope was engraved by a dotted technique which Švabinský did not like, and he said: "You know, that looks like flies pooped on it."

Švabinský did not like and condemned when someone hyped himself in the newspaper. He gave me such articles to read and remarked that the said information written by the author is not actually correct.

He carefully examined many engravings, and he always had on his desk a group of prints which he critically evaluated. On one foreign postage stamp, he wondered how it could have been issued at all. The head of the portrait was drawn with impossible lines, the ear was actually missing, the eyes were improperly positioned, and the expression was less than intelligent. Švabinský said the engraver must surely have been drunk.

He did not reject modern art, but he was not excited about it either, especially abstract art. He said a painter should always paint in a way that an onlooker would be sure about what the painting presents. He admitted that it is technically possible for everyone to express themselves, but in such a way to be understandable.

He reminisced about his years of study at the Academy and related with what a sacred attitude he approached his work. His entire life he stayed loyal to this enthusiasm for perfection in his work.

About the incomprehensible craze of modern art, he ironically noted that some painters started to paint with their left hand, later with the right foot, and recently with left foot and in the dark. *(To Be Continued)*

CLOSED ALBUMS



Jerome Charles "Jerry" Zajic

Our member with the second lowest surviving number (447), Jerome Zajic, died November 13, 2018 in Melbourne, Florida. Jerry was born in Astoria, New York on January 1, 1927. His parents, Karel and Paulina Zajic, were immigrants and throughout his life Jerry embraced his Czech heritage in many ways.

Jerry's lifetime interest was aviation. In his early teens he learned how to fly, and he attended The Aviation Trades High School of New York where he continued his education in aviation theory and maintenance. In December 1944, six months shy of graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. This led to combat duty in his Stinson L-5 in Okinawa. After four years in the Marines he attended Brooklyn Polytechnic College on the GI Bill. Graduating in Aeronautical Engineering, he made his career as an aviation engineer with Grumman Industries. He retired in 1985 after 33 years with the same company.

He met Anna Shaskina in 1943 and they married in 1950. They had three children, seven grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. He was an active volunteer in many fields, both local and national. He was a proud supporter of the Czechoslovak Society of America College Fund, as well as a member of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. At the time of his death he was working on a translation of a Czech Legionnaire's diaries.

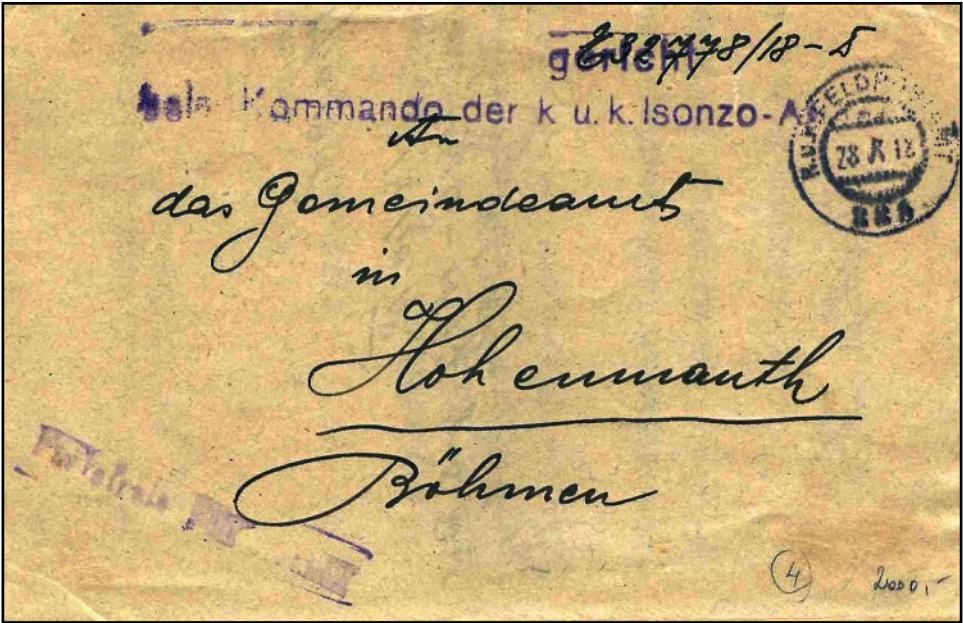


Fig. 1

HISTORIC COVER FROM THE FINAL DAYS OF THE GREAT WAR

by Tom Cossaboom

Recently I have been doing some research in my collection of Austro-Hungarian Feldpost covers. This cover (a folded letter) is from the Military Court for the Isonzo Army. This was the Austro-Hungarian theater command for the war front facing the Italians on what is now the border area between Italy and Slovenia. The cover (Fig.1) is addressed to the town hall in Hohenmauth, Bohemia (now Vysoké Mýto, Czech Republic), cancelled on October 29, 1918 at Feldpost 339. The stamp on the back is the receiving mark. As this receiving mark (Fig.2) is only in Czech, I suspect the letter arrived after news had been received of Czechoslovak independence on October 24, 1918.

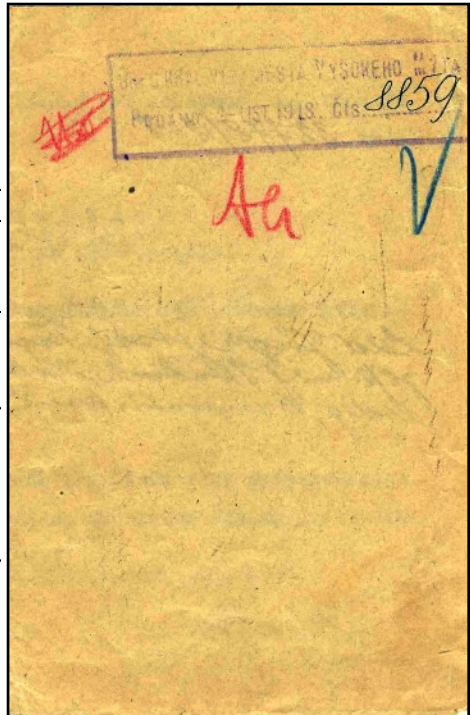


Fig. 2

The message (Fig. 3) is a request from the military court for the arrest of Land-

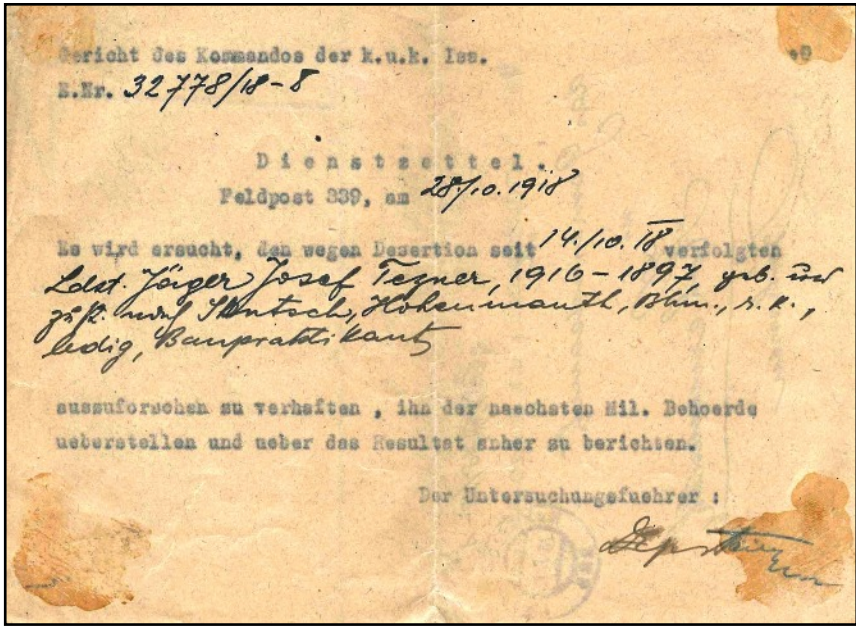


Fig. 3

sturm Jäger Josef Tezner, who was convicted of desertion on October 14, 1918. Below is a partial translation of the message.

It is requested to arrest Ldst Jäger Josef Tezner, who has been prosecuted because of desertion since 14.10.1918, 1916-1897, to arrest him, turn him over to the next Military authority and to report on the result.

The message suggests that Tezner's birth year was 1897 and that he joined the Austrian Army in 1916 in Skuttsch, Bohemia. I googled the name Tezner and found a sewing machine shop in Chrudim, not far from Vysoké Mýto. One of the owners is a woman named Teznerová. She could well be related to the deserter Josef Tezner, who was probably extremely fortunate that the war ended before he was tracked down by the authorities.

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SELL - SWAP - WANT

WANT: Trade or buy Benda's "Dove" stamps, negative/plate flaws, sheets, blocks, accumulations, singles, oddities. Mark Wilson (mark@cpslib.org), 370 Lofgrin Road, Sequim, WA 98382-3458.

*[Every member is entitled to one **FREE** 15-word ad each calendar year, which will run in the column headed like this one. Your name, address, and other contact information does not count towards the 15 words. Send your ad. (please type or print it so there can be no misunderstandings) to the editor at the address or email address found on page 2 of every issue.]*

ADVERTISEMENT

NEED CZECHOSLOVAK STAMPS or PHILATELIC ITEMS??

(This offer for members only)

I have been collecting Czechoslovak stamps and philatelic items for more than 55 years now, and in that time have accumulated a great number of duplicates and other interesting items (see some of them listed below).

I am almost 80, and it is time for me to begin sharing them with others. I have time now to do this since Keith has taken over as editor of the Specialist.

If you are interested, I am offering them to members at the prices below (based upon Scott's catalog, or for non-Scott items at proportional Czechoslovak POFIS catalog values):

Used	40% (except .05 for Used .25 catalog items)
Mint	66%
MNH	85%

To these prices will be added the cost of postage, insurance, and if needed, mailing materials.

Among the kinds of items being offered are:

- the full range of CzSI, B&M, Cz, SI, ES stamps
- varieties, imperfs, plate faults -- e.g., 831 II, 1435 tear, 1878a, 1908a, 2226 II, and POFIS identified
- coupons, tabs, perfins, plate #'s
- printing sheets of 4, 6, 8, 10 (e.g., art stamps)
- POŠTA semipostals & overprint varieties
- postal stationery
- CzSI commemorative/souvenir cards
- FDC's, parcel card clippings
- sports / SOKOL covers, cards, memorabilia
- stamp booklets, Cinderella's
- SCP convention commemorative envelopes/cards
- 1000's of interesting covers/cards --- ask

All items are guaranteed. I will give you the best item or set that I have -- so order early.

Ludvik "Lou" Svoboda
Lousvoboda@comcast.net
303-680-7118

4766 S. Helena Way
Aurora, CO 80015

A Forgotten Way to Collect Stamps

CANCELED HRADČANY (18)

by VR

trans. by Lucie Harris

Today you will be introduced to machine postmarks that were used after the "1918" revolution. These were used in the "Czech" part of the young Republic by some of the bigger post offices.

Machine postmarks -- which were a result of the technical development of postal equipment -- began to appear here around 1906, at first in Prague and then also in other post offices that needed to process a large amount of correspondence [see *Figures 9 & 10*]. A characteristic feature of all machine postmarks was a so-called "space filler" used to fill-in the interval between two bridge postmarks. The space fillers had different forms -- in the beginning horizontal line segments, and then later solid or segmented wavy lines of various designs (Fig. 1). A different type of machine postmark used for the large scale postmarking of postal money orders consisted of a single local postmark that had concentric sector arcs on opposite sides (Fig. 2)

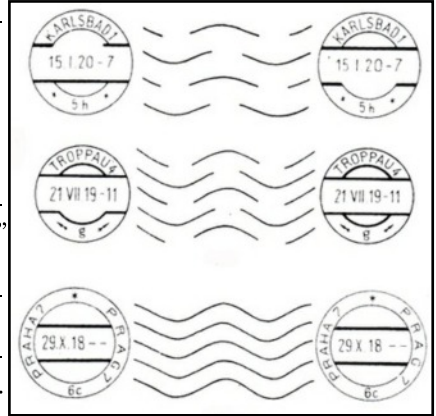


Figure 1: Some types of space fillers.

Under machine postmarks, *Monografie 16* recognizes six types labeled S.1 through S.6. After the revolution 23 post offices had at least one of them in their inventory: Brno 1 and 2, Chomutov 1, Jablonec/N 1, Jihlava 1, Karlovy Vary 1 and 2, Královské Viňohrady 1, Liberec 1, Marianské Lázně 1, Moravská Ostrava 1, Most, Olomouc 1 and 2, Opava 1 and 4, Plzeň 3, Praha 1 and 7, Teplic-Šanov 1, Těšín 1, Ústí/L 1, and Žatec. Therefore after the founding of the Czechoslovak Republic these were the busiest post offices. Bilingual machine postmarks were nationalized in 1919 (with the exception of one case in which the German was excised out of the postmark -- only at the Plzeň 3 post office was the German name just corrected). The Jihlava postmark was not nationalized.

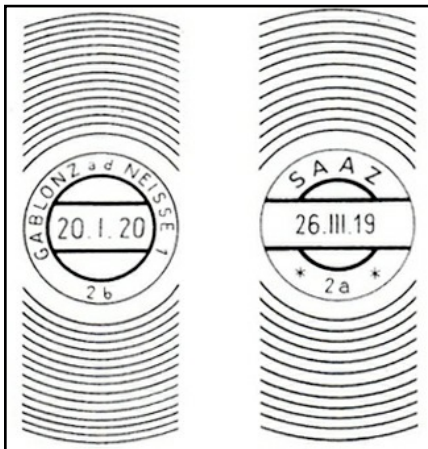


Figure 2: Machine postmarks for postal money orders.

Machine postmarks from the beginning of the new Republic are common on Czechoslovak stamps -- many impressions are preserved, especially from Prague. However, the original bilingual postmarks can only be

Figure 3: A picture postcard with a Pofis 5 stamp canceled with a machine postmark Praha 1 / Prag 1, 20.12.18, and therefore the third day after the Hradčany stamp first became valid for postage.

The ten heller stamp originates from stamp sheet position 91/2 which has the popular plate variety "clock on the tower."



found sparingly. Imprints of the Těšín postmark are very rare with *Monografie 16/II* (#2478/6) giving it 60 points.

Collectors of Hradčany stamps do not usually like machine postmarks, because their space fillers often cover up control symbols and make it difficult to determine stamp sheet positions. Such imprints can have a negative influence on value. We rarely find them nice and complete on a soaked off strip of Hradčany stamps, therefore we would rather only put them into a stationery or voucher receipt collection.

Now we will look more closely at a few of them.

Aussig 1 (Ústí/L1)

Ústí nad Labem is a regional university town in the northwest Czech Republic at the confluence of the Labe and Bílina rivers. Today it has 93,000 inhabitants and is an important transportation junction. In the 19th century it experienced an extensive industrialization. The Labe port in Ústí even had a higher volume of transported goods than Trieste, and around 1900 it became the most important port of the Monarch! The post office here was already founded around 1634 and used machine postmarks since 1907 (Fig. 4). *Monografie 16/II*, p.43, #2577/13 gives it 12 points; occurring less frequently.



Figure 4: AUSSIG 1 (2a)

Saaz (Žatec)

A city of 19,000 inhabitants in the Louny region, already mentioned in history in 1004! It had an important role during the Hussite Wars. In 1421 it withstood the attack of the second crusade into the Czech lands. In the 18th and 19th centuries

the growing of hops and the brewing of beer evolved here. The post office founded in 1732 had a machine postmark after the founding of the Czechoslovak Republic (Fig. 5), which *Monografie 16/II* on page 99 under #2858/12 gives it 8 points; occurring less frequently.



Figure 5: SAAZ (2a)

Marienbad 1 (Mariánské Lázně 1)

A city in the Cheb region with 13,000 inhabitants which is world renowned thanks to mineral hot springs. Visiting them, among others, were Goethe, Wagner, and King Edward VII (who met up here with Franz Joseph I in 1904). The post office founded in 1820 had for its use after the



Figure 6: MARIENBAD 1 (2a)

revolution two machine postmarks (Fig. 6), which *Monografie 16/I*, page 312, #1344/11-12 gives them 8-10 points; less frequently appearing on Hradčany stamps.

Pilsen 3 (Plzeň 3)

A regional university town in the western part of the Czech Republic that now has 171,000 inhabitants. It is known as an industrial and beer brewing city. A bottom fermented light lager beer was named Pilsner worldwide according to its German name.

Monografie 16/I on page 405 shows under #1787/9 a bilingual machine postmark in which in 1919 the German name (right) was corrected to the Czech one (Fig. 7). Both kinds, the original and the nationalized, equally have 10 points; occurring less frequently.

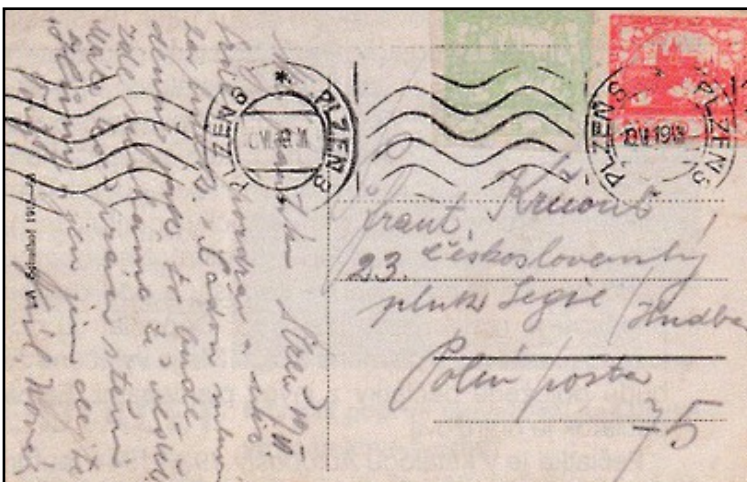


Figure 7: PLZEŇ 3 / PLZEŇ 3 (2a)

Mähr. Ostrau 1 (Moravská Ostrava 1)

Formerly an independent city in Moravia at the border with Silesia, today a part of the region and the university city of Ostrava. The first written mention of it is from 1279; in the years 1880-1918, thanks to metallurgy and coal mining, this was the most important industrial region of Austria-Hungary! The post office (founded in 1743) has used a bilingual machine postmark since 1910 (Fig. 8),

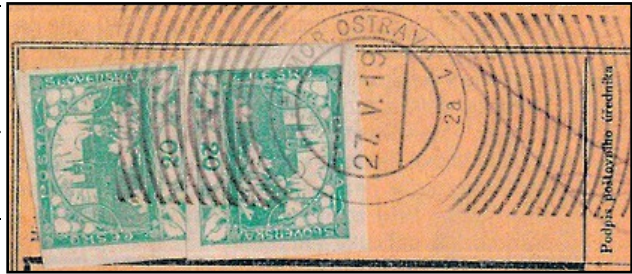


Figure 8: [blank] / MOR. OSTRAVA 1 (2A)

Monografie 16/I, page 335, #1455/20, in which the

German name was excised in 1919. The original imprints are rare (12 points), while the nationalized ones are less frequent (8 points).



Figure 9: Early machine postmark with wavy lines

The original imprints are rare (12 points), while the nationalized ones are less frequent (8 points).

[Here in Figures 9 and 10 we see an early example of a machine postmark (1.VIII.1912, pre-revolution) from Karlsbad (Karlovy Vary) with a wavy-lined space filler. The reverse has a humorous "Greetings from Karlsbad - Morning Symphony".]

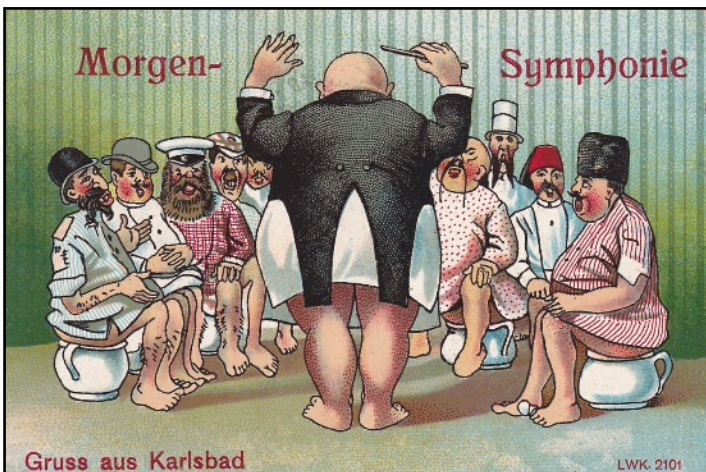


Figure 10: Greetings from Karlsbad -- Morning Symphony

[Ed. Note: The Specialist is pleased to reprint this first English translation of an article from Filatelie 5/2018 with the permission of the author and the editor.]

Library – Shhhhhhhhh!

Here are some new books that you might want to consider borrowing from the SCP Library.

1. Vojtěch Preissig, by Lucie Vlčková, 2012, Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague. Vojtěch Preissig (1873 Světec u Bílina -- 1944 Dachau) is without doubt one of the

most prominent Czech artists of the first half of the twentieth century. His work was characterized by great artistic inventiveness, superb technical knowledge and masterful craftsmanship, but was almost lost to history until its revival in the liberating atmosphere of 1968. He specialized in the field of graphic design, from book designs, ex libris, postcards, poster designs, and designs for display advertising. You may be most familiar with his postcards and posters in support of the effort to promote the formation of an independent and democratic Czechoslovakia in the 1916-18 time period (Fig. 1). He worked for the Czech National Association designing a campaign for the recruitment of Czechs and Slovaks living in the United States into the Czechoslovak Foreign Legions. He worked and lived in the U.S. from 1910 until the early 1930's when he returned to Czechoslovakia. Like many Czechs who were outspoken and worked for the resistance against the Nazi, he was arrested and spent considerable time in concentration camps, finally dying of typhus in Dachau. Witnesses speak of his strength and courage in facing up to the extreme hardships of Dachau where he was forced to work on the designs of counterfeit money. This 222 page book is in color, completely in English, gives a chronology of his history, and is extensively illustrated.



Fig. 1

2. National Treasure: The Art of Joža Uprka from the George T. Drost Collection. This 138 page book, in color, that is extensively illustrated was donated to the Society and our Library by our member George T. Drost (Fig. 2). This monograph contains a large body of work by the Czech and Moravian-Slovak artist Joža Uprka

[1861-1940] as gathered over nearly 30 years by George T. Drost. The collection contains prime examples of Uprka's art, chiefly oil paintings, water colors, gouaches, drawings in charcoal and pencil, etchings, lithographs, and other representations of his works. Many of these works can be found on picture postcards from Czechoslovakia. The scenes he portrays are bucolic and traditional, displaying a nostalgia for simpler times in the face of the disruptive forces of urbanization and industrialization happening around him. Much of George's collection can currently be seen on exhibit at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library until March 24, 2019.

✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱

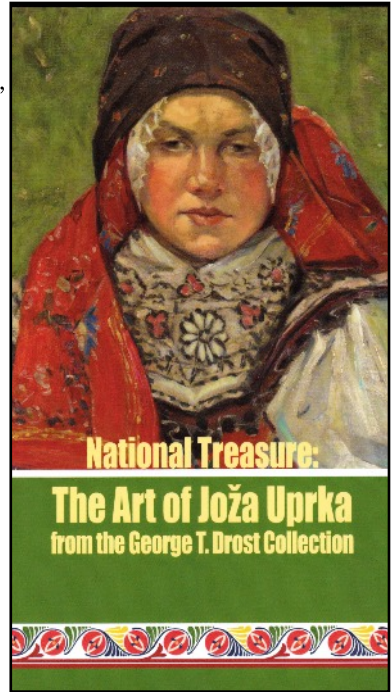


Fig. 2

Book Review

SLOVAKIA 1993-2017 SPECIALIZED CATALOG

by Anton Kulhánek
Zberateľ, Bratislava 2018

For some time, I had wondered whether another Slovak catalog was ever going to be published. The excellent Zberateľ catalog from 2013 had been updated by yearly supplements and as nothing had appeared by the time of Praha 2018 my hopes had dimmed. Only to be raised once again in November by the news that this catalog had been published. It was certainly worth waiting for.

The catalog has comprehensive information for each stamp regarding plate errors/variations, as well as perforation and color varieties. There are detailed sections on first day covers, stamp booklets, Cartes Maximum, collection sheets, prepaid postal cards, and black proofs. The Slovak Pofis numbers are also compared to their Michel numbers. Although the catalog is in Slovak, if you are used to navigating similar catalogs in Czech you can find your way around easily. Illustrations are an excellent quality and the soft cover format makes it easy to use. All in all, this is a very welcome updated version of the 2013 catalog.

The catalog is available from James Buckner, our book sales manager, whose contact information is to be found at the bottom of page 44 of this journal. For orders with addresses outside the USA and non-member orders, please contact James to ascertain the cost to you.

320 pages. 5 3/4" x 8 1/4", in full color, soft cover. Zberateľ, Bratislava, Slovakia. \$35.00

Keith Hart

PHILATELIC NEWS AND VIEWS

From Keith Hart,

1). Our members were extremely successful with their exhibits at CHICAGOPEX 2018. Congratulations to the following award winners.

Multi-Frame Exhibits

Gold

Alan Hanzl. *The Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (1939-1945)*.

Frederick Lawrence. *1918 Czechoslovakia Scout Post*.

Large Vermeil

Alfred Kugel. *The French in the Levant 1915-1944*.

William Maddocks. *The Kingdom of Serbia 1882-1921*.

Vermeil

Robert Henak. *The Czechoslovakia Judaica Issue of 1967*.

Alfred Kugel. *Postal History of Slovakia 1939-1945*.

Ludvik Svoboda. *Trials and Tribulations with Czechoslovakia's Hradčany 1918-1920*.

Single-Frame Exhibits

Large Silver

Alfred Kugel. *German Forces Defending the Eastern Borders Following WWI*.

Literature Awards

Gold

Alfred Kugel. *1914- The First War Year, to 1918- The Fifth War Year*.

Large Vermeil

Keith Hart, Ludvik Svoboda. *The Czechoslovak Specialist*.

Vermeil

Steven Friedenthal, Peter Schubert. *Czechoslovakia Machine Advertising Cancels: The First Republic Period*.

Sponsored Awards

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Honor

William Maddocks. *The Kingdom of Serbia 1882-1921*.

2). In addition, the Society's **Alfons Mucha Medal** was deservedly awarded to our own Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph. D. for his exhibit *1918 Czechoslovakia Scout Post*.

3). We enjoyed our time in Itasca, IL at CHICAGOPEX 2018. Our table



Fig. 1: Some members at our Society's table at CHICAGOPEX - (Left to right) Richard Livingston, Alan Hanzl, Ludvik Svoboda, Keith Hart, (?), Jiri Majer, Tom Cossaboom.

was conveniently near the main entrance to the exhibition. During the eventful three days we were there, we met with many members and other collectors (Fig. 1). Book sales at our table were extremely satisfactory. The Board was already looking forward to its next meeting on February 14, 2019 at AmeriStamp Expo/Aripex in Mesa, AZ (This will have already taken place by the time you read this).

4). ITALIA 2018 took place during November in Verona and a **Large Gold** in the **International Exhibition of Philatelic Literature** was awarded to Johan Sevenhuijsen and Mark Wilson for *The Hradčany: A Technical History- Monograph 31*.

5). The next APS sponsored philatelic event is StampShow/NTSS, being held at the CHI Health Center, 455 N. 10th St., Omaha, NE 68102 from August 1-4, 2019. The deadline for submission of exhibits is May 15, 2019 and for the Literature Competition the entry deadline is May 1, 2019. Entry forms can be printed from the APS website www.stamps.org.

6). Please note that my telephone number has changed. The new number is (303) 594-0697. My address in Highlands Ranch, CO is unchanged.

From Lou Svoboda,

7). In the "U.S. Stamp Notes" column (by John M. Hotchner) of the January 7, 2019 issue of Linn's Stamp News, was presented the information that one of our former long-time members took the design of a famous USA stamp series (*US Champions of Liberty, 1957-61*) and used a modified version as the basis of a holiday greeting card (Fig. 2). Featured on the modified stamp design is Joseph Janecka, Jr. in place of T.G. Masaryk.

Janecka was a member of the SCP from 1960 until his death in 1991. He was also the President of the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America from 1961 until his death. He was born in Moravia in 1913, moved with his family to Canada in 1928, and to the Chicago area after WW II. He was very proud of his Czechoslovak heritage and became a member of other Czech societies, including SOKOL.



Fig. 2

He followed his father to become an expert in sheet metal work. It was these skills that he used to fabricate a very large sheet metal replica of the 8-cent T.G. Masaryk "Champion of Liberty" stamp. The replica was very prominently displayed at the first day of issue ceremony in Washington, D.C. It is now in the archives of the Smithsonian Institute. He also used these skills to make special awards for Czech and Slovak stamp exhibits. He received several honors from other philatelic and Czechoslovak national societies.

Finally, he was an active proponent of the specialized philatelic collecting area of Bohemoslovenika. This involves the collecting of stamps from foreign countries that display some form of connection with Czechoslovakia. This might include CzSl personalities, artists, artwork, writers, leaders, historical figures, architecture, churches, village scenes, costumes, etc.

The modified version of the stamp reads along the top "Champion of Sheetmetal", around the image "President 1st Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America, Joseph Janecka Jr.", and along the bottom "Riverside, Illinois, Christmas 1961 Issue".

SAFE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF PHILATELIC MATERIAL

by Chris Jackson

One of our members recently enquired about the safe storage and handling of his philatelic material. The following is an edited version of my initial response. Hopefully it may provide some guidance or insight for our members.

My stamps are kept in my home office. Here in southern Ontario we experience some extreme swings in temperature and the humidity levels in the summer are often extremely high.

All of my philatelic material is stored in stock books (I prefer Lighthouse), binders with Vario pages and covers are stored in small metal or laminated boxes after being placed in glassines or plastic sleeves that do not contain any damaging chemicals. Sheets and part-sheets are stored in specially made sheet files with inert sleeves. All of this is located in four different large cabinets and the storage items containing stamps are all up high off of the lowest level of the cabinets (much of my reference literature and shipping material occupies this lower space). The cabinets are all strategically arranged such that the interior temperature is not directly influenced by the two floor vents in the office. I would also suggest that any cabinets used for storage are not set against exterior walls - this will also help prevent any unwanted temperature and humidity swings within the cabinets. This is not always possible and I do have one cabinet set against an exterior wall, but it houses only "lesser" philatelic material and much of it is used - so there are no real issues with damaging water-activated gum in that particular cabinet.

Big swings in temperature and humidity are the primary threats to stamps and covers. The temperature in my office is always between 70F and 74F. The humidity level is almost constant and many authors suggest that it should remain at approximately 50%. Significantly higher humidity levels will damage water-activated gum, in essence activating the gum which will cause stamps to adhere to the face of the page, card or sheet file in which they are stored. Of course, direct exposure to water or most other liquids will ruin the gum on older stamps.

Significantly lower humidity levels will also cause adverse effects such as gum cracking, turning delicate older stamps very brittle or causing stamps to curl.

The only large window in my office faces north and this is ideal for preventing any philatelic item from being directly exposed to sunlight, which is damaging in a number of ways.

Because my office is in my home I also ensure that when dinner is prepared, the door to my office is sealed as old paper will "soak" up odors. Smoking tobacco around stamps is also damaging for the same reason.

One other very simple rule that I have followed since the age of five is that stamps and covers are always handled with tongs and I NEVER handle stamps with my hands. Any kind of dirt and the oils that are naturally found in and on your skin can damage stamps over the long-term.

Keep pets and people who are not familiar with the delicacy of stamps and covers away from them, period.

Basements are deathtraps for stamps and collections given the uncertain humidity levels and temperature shifts that are rarely the same as those in the

main levels of your home. My basement is always colder than the rest of the house and the humidity levels are regularly higher than the rest of the house. I have seen collections that were stored in basements by people who did not take the time to investigate how they should store their collection (invariably a collection that they inherited), and in almost all of these situations where there are no great rarities, my advice is often that the stamps are so damaged that they really have no value and they could simply be used for kindling! If you are leaving a philatelic collection to a person or other entity in your will, it would be wise to offer written guidance regarding the safe handling and storage of the collection.

Here are a few online links that anyone can check if interested:

www.nicksstamps.com/storing-postage-stamps/

www.thesprucecrafts.com/modern-stamp-storage-concerns-3125405

www.mysticstamp.com/info/long-term-stamp-storage/

www.apfelbauminc.com/caring-for-your-stamp-collection

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NOTES FROM 100 YEARS PART 4 - 2018

by Keith Hart

Anyone arriving today in the center of Prague or Bratislava would see new trams, covered with adverts for trips to Caribbean beaches or historic cities throughout the world. Twenty-five years ago, the average citizen would not have been looking any further than a Black Sea resort in Bulgaria or Romania. The two capitals now find their streets clogged with cars from Germany, South Korea and Britain, many of which are made or assembled within the two countries. These observations alone show you just how much progress has been made since 1993.

The Czech Republic has become a major tourist destination itself, while Slovakia has managed to transform itself from having an outdated agrarian economy to becoming a modern industrial powerhouse in an extremely short period of time.

On my recent trip to the Czech Republic, which was sadly probably my last, I found myself reminiscing previous visits over a period of 45 years. In 1973 Prague's Old Town Square was a crumbling mix of dirty buildings, severely potholed streets and sidewalks. You also had to avoid suspicious people wanting to buy your jeans. At least being a tourist was a joy then. With few people jostling for your personal space, you had as much time as you wanted to enjoy the culture of the city. Prague castle looks more impressive now that it is restored. In 1973 the soot covered buildings on Hradčany were as murky as they look on Mucha's



Fig. 1. Stamp from 1919.
Pofis# 21, Scott # 36.



Fig. 2. Stamp from 1970.
Pofis # 1845, Scott # 1703

first stamps (Fig. 1). Not everything has improved though. Down in the Little Town Square behind the Old Town Hall, my favorite restaurant and bar, The Green Frog (Fig. 2) became a victim of “progress” and disappeared in the 1980s. It is still extremely pleasant to stroll along the Vltava among the huge government buildings and suddenly come across the beautiful Vavra’s House, now the Czech Postal Museum (Fig. 3).

Vyšehrad, just south of the center, is still a relatively tourist-free area, although it should not be. While the buildings from the period of the Přemyslid dynasty have disappeared, the surrounding

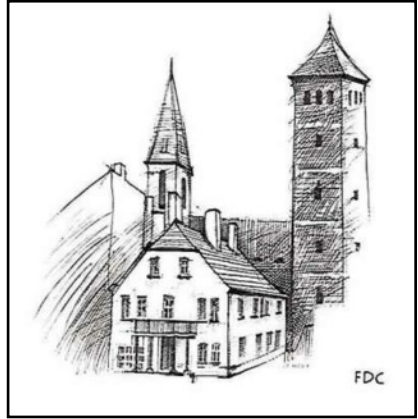


Fig. 3. FDC cachet from 2018.
Pofis # 0990.

walls do contain the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul. The austere Victorian Gothic exterior gives you no indication of the spectacular interior (Fig. 4). Virtually every square inch of wall and column is covered with the Mucha-esque designs of František and Marie



Fig. 4. Personal photograph of Basilica of St. Peter and St. Paul, Vyšehrad.

Urban. Adjacent is the Vyšehrad cemetery and the Slavín, containing the remains of many famous Czechs. The edge of the site has magnificent views of the city (Fig. 5). It is amazing that Vyšehrad’s landscape has never been the subject of a postage stamp.

I also managed to spend some time in Kutná Hora, more than 800 years old and remarkably preserved. The original settlement was in nearby Sedlec, where the abbey contains the bizarre, eerie crypt holding the skeletal remains of more than 40,000 people (Fig. 6). These are mostly victims of the Black Death and The Hussite Wars. The highest point of the town itself, wealthy due to silver mining, is crowned by the five-nave Church of St. Barbara (Fig. 7).

My final day in Bohemia sent me south of Prague, to Český Krumlov, near the border with Austria. The massive castle has spectacular views of the Renaissance



Fig. 5. Stamp from 1967. Pofis # 1586, Scott # 1446.

era town (Fig. 8), contained within a horseshoe bend of the Vltava river (Fig. 9). It was enjoyable, on an extremely hot day, to wander the streets, with a cooling breeze coming off the river.

It is always pleasant to travel and see places that are depicted on Czech and Slovak stamps. In the 100 years since Czechoslovakia was founded, there are countless stamps that remind me of cities, towns, art, and historic events, even when I am thousands of miles away. You must wonder, another hundred years from now, whether someone will feel the same joy. I certainly hope so.



Fig. 6. Personal photograph of Sedlec Ossuary, Cemetery Church of All Saints, Sedlec



Fig. 7. Stamp from 1936. Pofis # 306, Scott # 240



Fig. 8. Stamp from 1992. Pofis # 3024, Scott # 2871A



Fig. 9. Airmail stamp from 1955. Pofis # L37, Scott # C40

NEW LITERATURE ANNOUNCEMENT

AN UNPRECEDENTED PHILATELIC MONOGRAPH!

Monograph on the Postal Stationery in Slovakia from 1939 to 1945

The first monograph in eighty years on Slovak stationery from 1939 to 1945 has just been published: **MONOGRAPH ON THE POSTAL STATIONERY IN SLOVAKIA FROM 1939 TO 1945**. Renowned authors **Dr. Ondrej Földes** and **Ing. Stanislav Havlíček** treat postal stationery as a separate domain of philately which is worthy of intense study. On 352 pages, including 1784 color images, they use a unique narrative to describe their own research and scientific approach to stationery, from which emerge new and previously unrecognized findings and corrections of many misinterpreted claims in this very interesting philatelic field. The high quality of the publication and the rigorous methodology is supported by two independent expert reviews, requested by the authors and inserted into the publication – a somewhat uncommon practice in philately. Also, the high-quality graphic processing on high-quality paper, including precisely processed color images, is similarly uncommon.

The Monograph on the Postal Stationery in Slovakia from 1939 to 1945 consists of 23 chapters.

The opening chapter explains the use of Czechoslovak postal stationery in the territory of the newly formed Slovak State which remained valid after March 14, 1939 and gives examples of their postal use until the end of postal validity on July 31, 1940.

Chapters 2 to 8 describe the first group of postal cards, which all share several common features – retouching at the end of the first and the third address line, a horizontal line in the top left part of the card that separates the space for the sender's name and address, and an imprinted sale price.

Chapters 9 to 12 introduce the second group of postal cards. Their shared features include an interrupted decorative frame in the middle of the top of the card and a bilingual description of the issuer: SLOVENSKO – SLOVAQUIE.

Chapters 13 and 14 are concerned with the third group of postal cards, which includes two prepaid reply cards. The decorative frame in the upper part is not interrupted. The cards feature the national emblem in the top left corner and the issuer's bilingual name and purpose is placed in the middle of the card.

Chapter 15 presents a brown postal card available in two different versions featuring an imprinted Memorandum of the Slovak Nation postal stamp.

Chapters 16 to 22 focus on other types of postal stationery. These include emissions of parcel cards, red and purple seals, letterpress-printed and gravure-

printed issues of change of address cards, postal money order cards and postal bank withdrawal forms.

Chapter 23 is dedicated to international reply coupons.

In each chapter, the authors describe the postal purpose of the postal stationery, the quantity issued, the printing technique (gravure printing or letterpress printing), the composition of the printing plate and the number of printing fields on the printing plate. This information is supplemented by the validity period of each particular piece of stationery, and in the case of pictorial postal cards, for the first time, detailed descriptions of the themes of interest. High-quality color figures identifying printing flaws and modifications compliment the text. This makes it possible to identify individual printing fields in the print plate with certainty. Integral to each chapter are genuine practical examples of the postal use of stationery.

This monograph should not be missing from the library of any collector of Slovakia 1939 - 1945 and of post-war Czechoslovakia, as much of the stationery was overprinted and authorized for use in reunified Czechoslovakia. Moreover, thanks to very precise philatelic terminology, this work will be valuable to other philatelists, including thematic collectors, who will certainly appreciate detailed topical descriptions of the picture postal cards introduced in the monograph.

To improve readability for English-speaking collectors, the authors have provided a short English explanation and translation of all-important terms and definitions used in the monograph.

This volume is incredibly comprehensive and detailed and is a must for the serious philatelist with an interest in the postal stationery of Slovakia from 1939 to 1945. Nothing similar has ever been offered to the philatelic community.

About the authors:

Dr. Ondrej Földes is a long-time collector and successful exhibitor of stamps and other postal valuables and documents of Slovakia 1939 - 1945. He is the author of the highly prized catalog: *SLOVAKIA 1939 - 1945 - Specialized catalogue of stamps and stationery* (2007), which won the gold medal (85 points) at the CHICAGOPEX 2008 philatelic exhibition.

Ing. Stanislav Havlíček is a long-time collector of Slovakia's stationery 1939 - 1945, who, thanks to his extensive collection, provided and assessed invaluable comparative material, which led to the new findings and conclusions formulated in the monograph.

Our SCP Book Sales Manager, **James Buckner**, will be happy to receive your enquiries about availability at the price of \$55 through the SCP. Please email James at wellseats@hotmail.com or contact him at the postal address noted in the available publications for sale section of this *Czechoslovak Specialist*. In the event that the SCP stock should run out, you will be directed to Dr. Ondrej Földes.

Written by Vojtěch Jankovič and edited for English by Chris Jackson.

CZECH REPUBLIC ISSUE PROGRAM 2019

Postage Stamps

Date	Item	Layout	Value Kč	Other Items
1-20-19	Tradition of Czech stamp design- Adolf Born	TL	A	ZS
1-20-19	Personalities: Petr Eben	TL	19	
1-20-19	100 th anniversary of Masaryk University, Brno	TL	A	
2-14-19	Centenary of Hanzelka and Zikmund's journeys	UTL	41 x 2	
2-14-19	Personalities: Rudolf Tomáš Jedlička	TL	19	
3-6-19	Les Království Dam	TL	A	ZS
3-6-19	The Sovereign Military Order of Malta	TL	41	
3-6-19	Czech Inventions: The Sugar Cube	TL	19	
4-3-19	100 th anniversary of Czech Currency	TL	23	
4-24-19	EUROPA 2019: National Birds- Common Kingfisher	MS	E	
4-24-19	Prague Castle: Seasons of the Year	UTL	35 x 2	
5-22-19	Personalities: Gelasius Dobner	TL	27	
6-12-19	Works of Art on Postage Stamps: Zdeněk Sýkora	MS	27	
6-12-19	Works of Art on Postage Stamps: Václav Radimský	MS	33	
6-26-19	Jan Palach and Jan Zajíc	TL	A	
6-26-19	Technical Monuments: 1 st Horse-drawn Tram Line	TL	A	
6-26-19	Mahatma Gandhi	TL	Z	
9-4-19	Nature Protection: Zoological Gardens IV	MS	19, 23, 27, 33	CM x 4
9-4-19	Czech Design: Václav Král	TL	A	
10-23-19	Czechoslovak fighters in RAF	MS	E	4k
10-23-19	60 th anniversary of Semafor Theatre	TL	A	
10-23-19	Czech Actors: Dana Medřická	UTL	23	
10-23-19	Czech Actors: Radovan Lukavský	UTL	27	
10-23-19	Kuks	TL	52	
11-13-19	30 th anniversary of Velvet Revolution and Karel Kry	TL	44	
11-13-19	Personalities: Ivan Blatný	TL	A	
11-13-19	100 th anniversary of Czech Red Cross	TL	A	
11-13-19	Works of Art on Postage Stamps: Ota Janeček	MS	41	

Legend: A equivalent to 19 Kč for 50g domestic letter; CM Cartes maximum; E equivalent to 33Kč for 50g letter to European countries; k coupon; MS miniature sheet; TL full sheet; UTL sheetlet; Z equivalent to 37 Kč for 50g international letter; ZS stamp booklet

New Issues

CZECH REPUBLIC
by Keith Hart

Fig. 1

1. On October 24, 2018 The Ministry of Industry and Trade issued a commemorative stamp in the series: Personalities - Miroslav Horníček (1918-2003). The 19 Kč stamp shows Horníček with his well-known smile (Fig. 1). The stamp was designed by Zdeněk Netopil, engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň and produced by PTC using KOMB technology in printing sheets of 50. Horníček was an actor, director and writer. From an early age he worked professionally in his home town of Plzeň before moving to Prague at the end of World War II. Horníček was one of the innovators who created Czech experimental theater, or

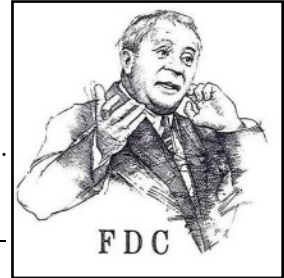


Fig. 2

the so-called theater of small stages. The stamp celebrates the centenary of his birth. The cachet of the FDC shows a gesturing Horníček, in his role as a television host (Fig. 2), while the commemorative cancellation has a line drawing of his face.

2. On October 24, 2018 the Ministry issued a commemorative stamp in the series: Personalities - František Ladislav Rieger (1818-1903). The 27 Kč stamp shows Rieger as a self-confident speaker defending the right to an independent Czech State (Fig. 3). The stamp was designed by Jan Kavan, engraved by Václav Fajt and produced by PTC using KOMB technology in printing sheets of 50. Rieger was a politician, lexicographer and co-founder of the Czech National Party. Following graduation from university he became a journalist and was a founder of the Czech social club *Měšťanská beseda*. During 1848 he was a member of the Austrian parliament, one of a Czech group who failed to push through liberal principles which would have federalized the country. He later became the chairman of the Old Czechs Party. In 1858 Rieger began working on the first encyclopedia in Czech, *Slovník Naučný*, which eventually encompassed 11

volumes and three supplements. Continuing in the Austrian parliament as a leader of the Czech bloc, his influence waned by the end of the 1880s. The stamp celebrates the bicentenary of his birth. The FDC cachet shows his writing desk, with several volumes of the encyclopedia and his writing tools (Fig. 4). The commemorative cancellation uses an ornamental monogram used by Rieger.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

3. On October 24, 2018 the Ministry issued a definitive postage stamp celebrating Martinmas Traditions. The stamp designated by the letter A (corresponding to a current value of 19 Kč) shows symbols associated with Martinmas- goose and wine (Fig. 5). Designed by Jiří Slíva, the stamp was produced by PTC using multicolored offset in printing sheets of 50. A Czech proverb, linked to St. Martin's Day, says that the saint is coming on a white horse, signifying the arrival of the first snow of winter.



Fig. 5

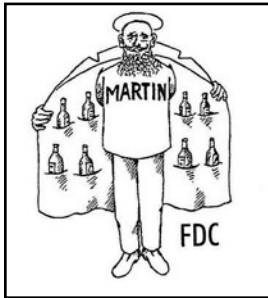


Fig. 6

Regardless of whether he brings snow, he always arrives with newly bottled wine, not to mention a goose. Although the name St. Martin's wine dates to the time of Emperor Joseph II, the wine was officially marketed as a brand only since 2005. Wines can be dry white, red, or rosé. They can only be opened at 11am on November 11th. The legend of the Martinmas goose has several versions. One says that on hearing he was to be made Bishop of Tours, his modesty led him to conceal himself in a barn full of geese, to hide from messengers arriving to tell him of his appointment. Their cackling at his intrusion of course gave him away. Another legend

says that he was so disturbed by their cackling during a sermon, that he decided to roast one or two on each anniversary day. The FDC cachet illustrates St. Martin arriving with wine bottles concealed within his coat (Fig. 6). The commemorative cancellation portrays a goose basting itself with a glass of wine. The stamp was also issued as a booklet of 8 stamps, with 4 coupons (Fig. 7).

Svatomartinské tradice

Svatý Martin přijíždí (občas) na bílém koni a vždy přiváží světlé Veltlíny, Müllerky, Portugaly a Svatomartinské víno, o které nemluví. Označení Svatomartinské víno se ve spojitosti s vítáním rovného ročníku začalo užívat již na úsvěte císaře Josefa II. Český Viničský fond ověřil značku Svatomartinské víno na tři papíry v roce 2005. Počali se tak obklopují tradiční, které dokáže úspěšně soutěžit s francouzským skladem Bénédictin Noyseau. Francouzské víno má jedno červené víno hospoř o 3 litrovém dvanácti. To naše Svatomartinské víno (neboť být suché bílé, růžové i červené) se ozvejí na Martina, 11. 11. v 11:00. Svatomartinská heza je další z tradic, která patří ke svátku Martinu. Jedna z legend říká, že svatý Martin při své skromnosti rozhodl přijmout hodnost biskupa v Tours a schoval se před vyslání, kteří mu zprávu o zvolení nesli, do kůzence mezi hezou hus. Ty jen však svým útlivým kejháním prozradily, jaká venze legendy zane prvek. Je husy Martina při křikání tak rudý nejen kejháním, že je za to odhodl, aby v den jeho památky pykaly za svoje provinění na pekáči.

Autorem návrh Svatomartinské tradice je grafik a ilustrátor Jiří Slíva, člen SČLAV ředitel a hýbatel Kopejky Grafického.

Vydání Česká pošta, s. p.

**Svato-
martinské
tradice**

Obchůzka B. ze známek se symbolikou A.



Fig. 7

4. On October 24, 2018 the Ministry issued two definitive postage stamps celebrating Christmas. The stamps are designated by the letter A. One shows half of a Christmas cookie, paired with half of a golden tree ornament. The other stamp has the motif of half a cut apple, paired with the top half of a ball decoration (Fig. 8). The stamps were designed by Filip Heyduk and produced by PTC using multi-colored offset in printing sheets of 50 (25 of each stamp). Celebrations of the mid-winter period date back long before the Christian era with festivities associated with the winter solstice, such as the Norse festival of Jol (Yule). Christmas has brought its own traditions – sending cards, gift giving, decorated trees and special menus of food and treats.

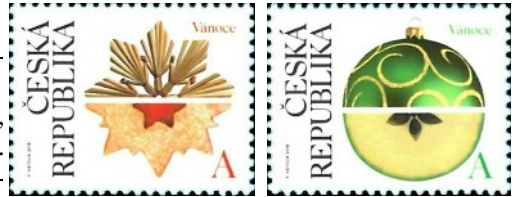


Fig. 8

5. On November 14, 2018 the Ministry issued a stamp in the series Works of Art on Postage Stamps: Stanislav Libenský (1921-2003). The 27 Kč stamp was designed by Otakar Karlas and shows Libenský's *Large Angel's Imprint I, II* (Fig. 9) which is in a private collection. The stamp was produced by PTC using multicolored offset in miniature sheets of four with a blank central coupon. Libenský was a glass designer, sculptor and teacher. A partnership with his wife, Jaroslava Brychtová, spanned more than 50 years. They became known for monumental artworks that graced both old and new buildings. The 7-meter-high windows in the medieval chapel of St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague (1968) were their first well-known work. This was followed by *The Meteor Swarm* of melted glass on a cylindrical concrete pillar at the television transmitter in Liberec (1975). Their final master-work was the unique graphic design for the cladding of the new building of the National Theatre, Prague (1983). The FDC cachet shows a photograph of the two artists standing with the sculpture which is the subject of the stamp (Fig. 10). The commemorative cancellation uses the motif of a glass as a design element.



Fig. 9

6. On November 14, 2018 the Ministry issued a stamp in the series Works of Art on Postage Stamps: Vladimír Komárek (1928-2002). The 33 Kč stamp was engraved by Miloš Ondráček and illustrates Komárek's *Birds on Stage* (Fig. 11), from a private collection. The stamp was

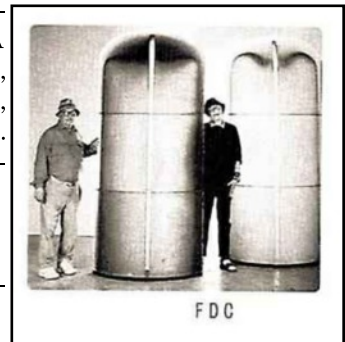


Fig. 10



Fig. 11

produced by PTC using KOMB technology in miniature sheets of four with a blank central coupon. Komárek was a painter and teacher, but primarily one of the foremost Czech graphic artists of the 20th century. He was born and spent most of his life in the Semily region, where from an early age his interest was graphic art. Even as a student he was associated with the Hollar Association of Czech Graphic Artists. His paintings invoke memories of Jan Zrzavý, with his main means of expression including extremely soft coloring and blurred contours, giving his work a distinctive atmosphere. His small graphic works and ex-libris belong to the finest examples of Czech graphics during his lifetime. The cachet of the FDC shows an antique printing press (Fig. 12) and the commemorative cancellation is a clenched fist with fish.

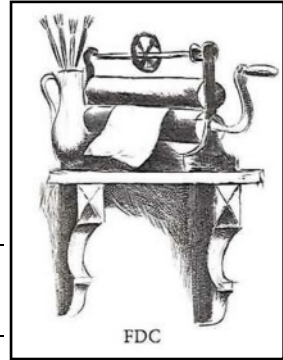


Fig. 12

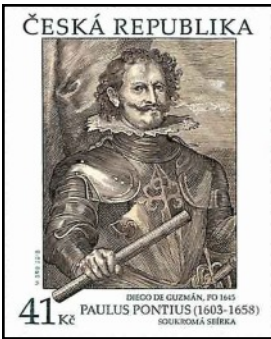


Fig. 13

7. On November 14, 2018 the Ministry issued a stamp in the series Works of Art on Postage Stamps: Paulus Pontius (1603-1658). The 41 Kč stamp was engraved by Martin Srb and shows Pontius' *Diego de Guzman* (Fig. 13) from a private collection. The stamp was produced by PTC using WAITE technology in miniature sheets of four with a blank central coupon. Pontius was an important Flemish engraver. Born in Antwerp he became a student of Peter Paul Rubens, producing engravings of many of the master's paintings. He later became well-known for engraving the works of Anthony Van Dyck, Titian and Velázquez. He was a master of effects of contrasted light and shadow, suggested in a very subtle manner. His body of



Fig. 14

work make him one of the premier artist/engravers during the Golden Age of Flemish art in the 17th century. The FDC cachet has the motif of the artist's self-portrait (Fig. 14) and the commemorative cancellation is an oval containing Pontius' designation of "sculpture."

8. On November 14, 2018 the Ministry issued a commemorative sheet honoring the first President of Czechoslovakia – T.G. Masaryk. The stamp, designated by the letter A, illustrates a portrait of Masaryk, surrounded on the sheet by linden twigs and leaves (Fig. 15), with the added text "100 LET OD PRVNÍHO JMENOVANÍ PREZIDENTEM". The stamp was designed by Zdeněk Netopil, engraved by Miloš

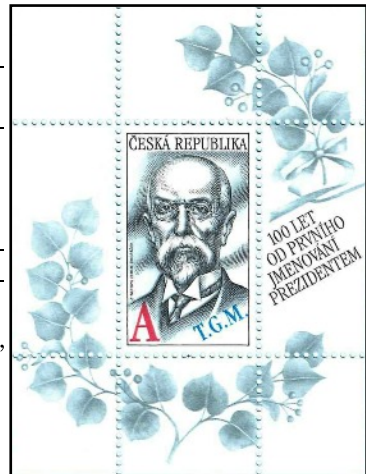


Fig. 15

Ondráček and produced by PTC using KOMB technology. Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (1850-1937) was a statesman, philosopher, sociologist, and teacher. He came from a poor family. His father was a coachman and his mother was a cook. Masaryk studied in Vienna, graduating in 1876 with an essay on the philosophy of Plato. In 1882 he was appointed Professor of Philosophy at Charles University in Prague. In 1890, with friends, he joined the national liberal Young Czech Party and was elected a member of the Austro-Hungarian federal parliament the following year. In 1890 he established the Czech Progressive Party and was re-elected to the same parliament in 1907 and 1911. In February 1917, after the official recognition of the Washington Declaration for future Czechoslovak independence, he traveled to Russia to create a Czechoslovak army to support his agenda. Arriving back in America, he heard the news of the anti-Austrian revolt in Prague and establishment of an independent Czechoslovakia, with him as President. He triumphantly arrived back in Prague on December 21, 1918. He won re-election in 1920, 1927, and 1934. In late 1935, he finally resigned for health reasons. His funeral in 1937 was a great national manifestation for freedom and democracy. The cachet of the FDC shows Masaryk on a horse (Fig. 16) and the commemorative handstamp uses an image of the Czech lion.

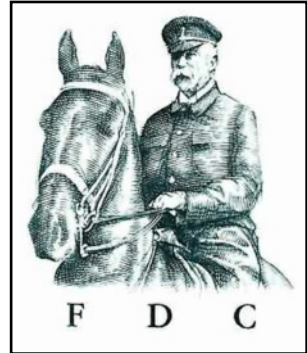


Fig. 16



Fig. 17



Fig. 18

9. On December 5, 2018 the Ministry issued a commemorative postage stamp celebrating the Castle Guard of the Czech Republic. The stamp, designated by the letter “A”, shows a member of the Guard, on duty at Prague Castle (Fig. 17). The stamp was designed by Petr Minka and produced by PTC, using multicolored offset, in printing sheets of 50. On December 7, 1918, at the behest of the Ministry of the Interior, the Command of the Army for the new Czechoslovak Republic set up a new unit, part of Prague’s 28th Infantry Regiment, whose mission was to secure and guard Prague Castle. This mission continued until February 1, 1990 when control was transferred to the National Defense Ministry. The two battalions of the Guard are responsible for the protection of Prague Castle, Lány Chateau, and other buildings temporarily used to house the Czech President and their guests. They are also used as security guards during official and ceremonial events. The Castle Guard orchestra plays at all formal events in connection with the President’s duties, as well as concerts near the Powder Tower. The Guard provides security during the Castle’s annual Open Days in May and October. It also protects the Czech crown jewels during their displays at the Castle. Its

regular parades in the 3rd courtyard of the Castle are extremely popular. The FDC cachet, engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň, depicts four members of the guard's orchestra (Fig. 18). The commemorative cancellation has a line drawing of a Guard booth. A stamp booklet containing eight stamps and four coupons was also issued. The card cover of the booklet shows uniforms of the guards, both new and old. The coupon illustrates the Castle Guard coat of arms.

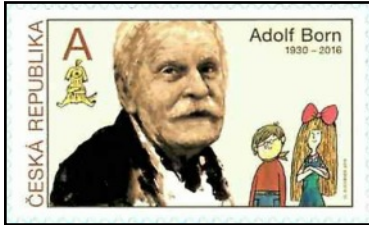


Fig. 19

10. On January 20, 2019 the Ministry issued a commemorative postage stamp in the series: Tradition of Czech Stamp Design – Adolf Born. The stamp, with a value identified by the letter A (19 Kč) shows a portrait of Born with a drawing of his famous characters, Mach and Šebestová, with their dog Jonatán (Fig. 19). It was designed by Vladimír Suchánek and produced by PTC, using multicolored offset,

in printing sheets of 50. Adolf Born (1930-2016) was a Czech graphic artist, painter, caricaturist, animator, and book illustrator. He began to work as a caricature artist immediately after graduating from Prague's Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in 1955. He illustrated more than 250 books and contributed to more than 60 animated films. The best-known books he illustrated were Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, short stories by Arthur Conan Doyle, Astrid Lindgren's *Pippi Longstocking*, and Kipling's *Jungle Book*. Born received many awards for his work, including the Czech Medal of Merit, First Class. His most notable work as a stamp designer was his rather controversial design of the miniature sheet issued to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's voyage to the Americas (*Pofis 3006, Scott 2856*). The cachet of the FDC, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, depicts a good news messenger (Fig. 20) and the special cancellation contains the artist's initials.

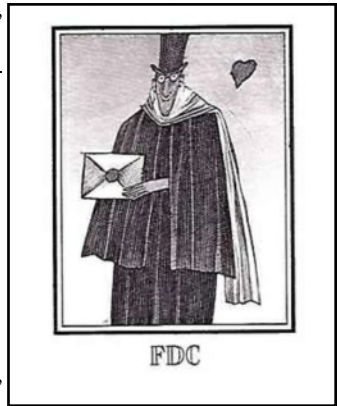


Fig. 20

A stamp booklet containing eight stamps and 4 coupons was also issued on the same day.

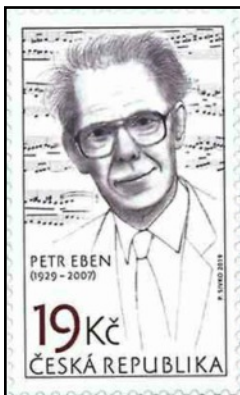


Fig. 21

11. On January 20, 2019 the Ministry issued a commemorative postage stamp in the series: Personalities – Petr Eben. The 19 Kč stamp shows a portrait of Eben with musical motifs in the background (Fig. 21). The stamp was designed by Pavel Sivko and produced by PTC, using offset technology, in printing sheets of 50. Petr Eben (1929-2007) was a Czech composer of classical music, who was also an acclaimed pianist and organist. His legacy amounts to over 200 compositions. His oeuvre encompassed choral work, song cycles and cantatas. His most commonly heard composition is the

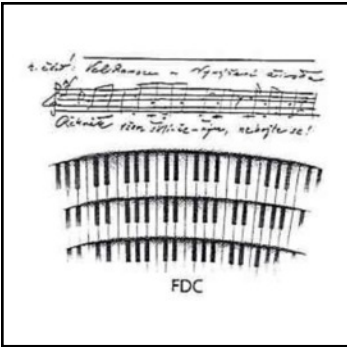


Fig. 22

march and fanfare from 1994 which is played by the Castle Guard during the raising of the Presidential Standard at Hradčany. The FDC cachet, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, depicts a view of organ keys with a notation from an Eben work above it (Fig. 22). The commemorative cancellation shows Eben's signature within a musical score.

12. On January 20, 2019 the Ministry issued a commemorative postage stamp to mark the 100th anniversary of the foundation of Masaryk University.



Fig. 23

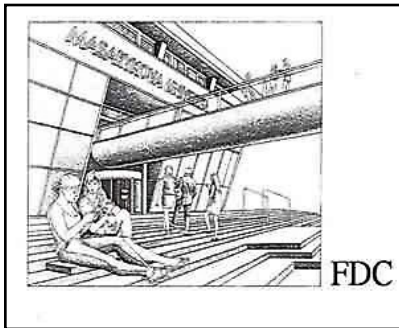


Fig. 24

The stamp, with a value identified by the letter A, shows the university chancellor's ceremonial mace with an outline of the city of Brno in the background (Fig. 23). The stamp was designed by Josef Dudek and produced by PTC, using offset technology, in printing sheets of 50. This is the oldest university in Moravia and opened on January 28, 1919 with the faculties of law, medicine, science, and philosophy. During the communist regime it was renamed Jan Evangelista Purkyně University, reverting to its original name in 1990. The university has greatly expanded since then. It has become one of the premier research universities in Europe. It is known today for the Mendel Polar Research Station in Antarctica. The FDC cachet depicts a view of the entrance to the main building (Fig. 24) and the commemorative cancellation has an outline of T.G. Masaryk's head.

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 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, \$35 for printed copies by airmail or \$28 for printed copies by surface. Payment can be made via Paypal to sales@cspphilately.org or by check to SCP, c/o Tom Cossaboom, PO Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302.

SLOVAKIA ISSUE PROGRAM 2019

Postage Stamps

Date	Item	Layout	Value €	Other Items
1-2-19	Slovak Chairmanship of Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe	TL	0.50	
1-8-19	The Blessed Titus Zeman	–	–	CDV
3-1-19	Personalities: Michael Strank (1919-1945)	TL	1.00	
3-22-19	Joint issue with Slovenia: Clocks in Stará Bystrica and Pleterje	UTL	1.20	
3-15-19	Easter: Traditional Slovak Tinsmithing	TL	T2.50g	ZZ
4-4-19	75 th anniversary International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	TL	0.70	
5-3-19	EUROPA 2019: Rare Birds- the eagle	UTL	1.70	ZZ, NL
5-3-19	World Ice Hockey Championships, Bratislava and Košice	TL	0.50	NL
5-3-19	Czechoslovak Legions and M.R. Štefánik	HA	1.90	2k, Pt
5-17-19	50 th anniversary Union of Slovak Philatelists	TL	0.65	25k, Pal
5-31-19	Bratislava Collector Days 2019	–	–	CDV
6-7-19	International Mathematics Olympiad	TL	1.25	NL
6-21-19	Beauties of Our Homeland: Demänovská Ice Cave	UTL	1.20	CM
6-27-19	100 th anniversary of Comenius University	UTL	1.90	Pal
7-4-19	Most Beautiful Postage Stamp of 2018	–	–	CDV
8-28-19	75 th anniversary of Slovak National Uprising	TL	0.50	Pal
9/3/2019	Biennale of Book Illustrations, Bratislava 2019	TL	0.50	CM
9-6-19	400 th anniversary of Three Sainly Martyrs of Košice	UTL	1.85	
9-10-19	100 th anniversary of Treaties of Paris	TL	2.470	
10-11-19	Nature Protection: Fruit trees	HA	1.70	3k, CM
10-18-19	ART: Ladislav Hudec	UTL	2.10	
10-18-19	ART: Ernest Zmeták	UTL	2.10	
11-8-19	Christmas Mail	TL	T2.50g	
11-8-19	Christmas: Traditional Slovak Tinsmithing	TL	T2.50g	ZZ
11-22-19	Personalities: Michal Bosák	TL	0.50	
12-3-19	Postage Stamp Day: Vincent Hložník	TL	0.7	30k, NL
12-18-19	Day of Postage Stamps and Philately	–	–	CDV

Legend: CDV- postal card with additional print; CM- Cartes maximum; HA- miniature sheet; k- coupon; NL- collection sheet; Pal- commemorative sheet; Pt- black proof; TL- sheet; UTL- sheetlet; ZZ- booklet

New Issues

SLOVAKIA by Keith Hart

13. On October 26, 2018 The Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications issued a miniature sheet to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Czechoslovakia. The 1.90€ stamp shows a Slovak girl in her national folk costume (Fig. 25). The design, by Igor Piačka, includes engraving by Martin Činovský. The stamp was produced by Tiskárna Hradištko, s.r.o. (THS) using KOMB technology in sheets of six stamps. The stamp is an artistic interpretation of a photograph of a Slovak girl taken by the Czech folklorist, K. Plicko. It symbolized the hope that the new state of Czechoslovakia would become a genuine home for both nations. Unfortunately, this did not happen. The



Fig. 25

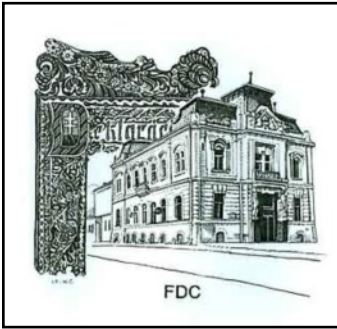


Fig. 26

state temporarily ceased to exist between 1939 and 1945 and was finally dissolved in

1993. Nonetheless, it was an important historical part of the journey towards the Slovak Republic of today. The cachet of the FDC shows the Tatra Bank building (Fig. 26) in Martin, where the Declaration of the Slovak Nation was adopted. The decorative border of the Declaration frames the building. Printing of the FDC was by PTC, Prague using WAITE technology. The commemorative cancellation illustrates a nibbed pen and an inkwell.

A commemorative sheet was also issued the same day.



Fig. 27

14. On November 9, 2018 the Ministry issued a stamp in the series: The Christmas Mail. The T2 50g stamp shows an angel standing in a snowstorm (Fig. 27). It was designed by Linda Mészárosová, a student at ZŠ Rozmarínová 1 Elementary School in Komárno. Graphic design for the stamp was by Vladislav Rostoka and it was produced by THS using offset technology in printing sheets of

50. The artwork was chosen by the Postage Stamp Design Commission from drawings received during the Christmas Mail 2017 period, sent in by children as part of the "letters to Baby Jesus" program. The cachet for the FDC shows a waving Saint Nikolas (Fig. 28), while the commemorative cancellation shows a Christmas carp. The cachet was



Fig. 28

designed by Christopher Peter, and the cancellation by Viktória Csábiová, both students of Spojená Škola Hradná 7 Elementary School in Komárno.



Fig. 29

15. On November 9, 2018 the Ministry issued a stamp in the series Christmas 2018: Paraments-Liturgical Textiles. The T2 50g stamp shows a detail from a rare chasuble (outermost vestment of the priest leading Mass) from Spiš (Fig. 29). Graphic design for the stamp was by Vladislav Rostoka and it was produced by THS using offset technology in printing sheets of 50. The chasuble was made around the middle of the 15th century

using an Italian silk fabric interwoven with metal threads. The cachet of the FDC illustrates a back view of the chasuble (Fig. 30) and was offset printed by BB Print, s.r.o. The commemorative cancellation shows a vessel used during Mass. A stamp booklet with 8 self-adhesive stamps was also issued on the same day, as was a pictorial postal card. An additional miniature sheet of eight stamps was issued (Fig. 31), with eight coupons containing a QR code that when accessed contains information on the Christmas carol *Stille Nacht* (Silent Night) which celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2018.



Fig. 30



Fig. 31

16. On November 27, 2018 the Ministry issued a miniature sheet as a joint issue with Turkey - an Ottoman Manuscript from the Bašagić Collection. The 1.30€ stamp shows an image of a world map, from the *Marifetname*, a manuscript by the scholar Ibrahim Hakki (Fig. 32). Graphic design of the sheet was by Adrian Ferda, which was produced by THS using offset technology on a sheet containing four stamps with two coupons. Safvet-beg Bašagić (1870-1934) was a prominent Bosnian poet, historian and linguist. He was a President of the Bosnian Council and long-term curator at the Archæological Museum in Sarajevo. He inherited the family library from his father and continued to expand it. Over thirty years he collected



Fig. 32

manuscripts, books and prints, gathering a history of Balkan-Muslim heritage. In 1924 he sold much of his collection to the University Library of Bratislava. The *Marifetname* is an encyclopædic work on mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, and mysticism. The FDC cachet features an astronomy-based illustration (Fig. 33) from the same manuscript and the commemorative cancellation is an Islamic seal.

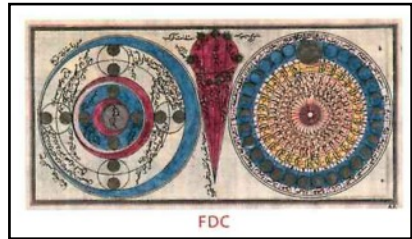


Fig. 33



Fig. 34

17. On December 3, 2018 the Ministry issued a 0.95€ stamp in the series: Postage Stamp Day- Alfons Mucha's Hradčany. The stamp illustrates a Hradčany stamp with the image partially overlapping the coupon, which is a contemporary photograph of Mucha (Fig. 34). Graphic

design of the sheet was by Vladislav Rostoka, which was produced by THS using multicolored offset technology in printing sheets of 30, with 30 coupons. Alfons Mucha was born 1860 in Ivančice, Moravia. Brought up during a time of nationalistic fervor, from an early age he had decided to become an artist specializing in Slav history. His application to study at the Academy of Fine Arts, Prague was rejected, which led him to study and later work in Munich. Due to increasing political unrest in Bavaria he moved to Paris in 1888. He found work as an illustrator for a weekly magazine. Soon he had moved on to book illustrations. By 1894 he had begun the work for which he is most artistically famous, advertising posters and decorative panels in the Art Nouveau style. Although his

work brought him considerable financial success, he craved recognition as a serious artist, particularly in history subjects. This led him to make several trips to the USA between 1904 and 1909. Although he received painting commissions in New York his main income came from teaching in New York, Philadelphia and later Chicago. In 1910, his major sponsor, Charles Crane, agreed to fund his *Slav Epic*,

a series of large-scale history paintings from Slav legend and history. Returning to Prague, he rented an apartment and studio in Zbiroh castle, the only space he could find large enough to accommodate the huge canvases he required. While working on this task the monumental events which brought about the independence of Czechoslovakia took place. This led the Provisional Government to request his help in designing the first postage stamps for the new country. The rest, as they say, is part of philatelic history. The FDC cachet depicts a digital image of Mucha (Fig. 35). The commemorative cancellation shows an artist's aid for deconstructing a circle. A collection sheet was also issued.

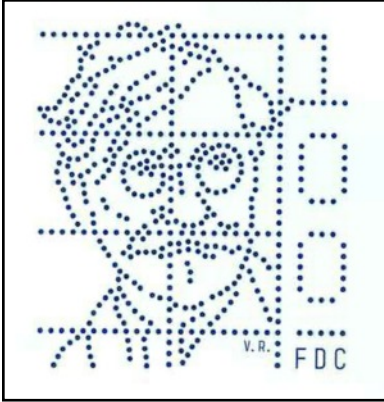


Fig. 35

18. On January 2, 2019 the Ministry issued a T2 50g (0.50€) stamp to commemorate Slovakia becoming the 2019 chair of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). The stamp, designed by Adrian Ferda, has the motif of an umbrella created by the Northern Hemisphere (Fig. 36), representing the concept of protection against the adverse effects that threaten security. The stamp was produced by

THS using offset technology in printing sheets of 50. The OSCE is composed of 57 countries in Europe, Asia and North America, making it the world's largest regional security organization.

The core aim of the group is to prevent conflict and secure stability, peace and democracy for more than one billion people within Europe. This is achieved through political dialog, shared values, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation. The FDC cachet depicts hands lifting the initials of the OSCE into a map (Fig. 37) and the commemorative cancellation shows clasped hands.



Fig. 36



Fig. 37

Postal Stationery

19. On December 18, 2018 the Ministry issued a prepaid postal card with additional imprint to celebrate the 2018 Day of Postage Stamp and Philately. The imprinted stamp with designated value of T2 50g shows a historic postal horn. The additional print, designed by Adrian Ferda, illustrates a philatelist inspecting a Hradčany issue stamp with a magnifying glass and tongs (Fig. 38).



Fig. 38

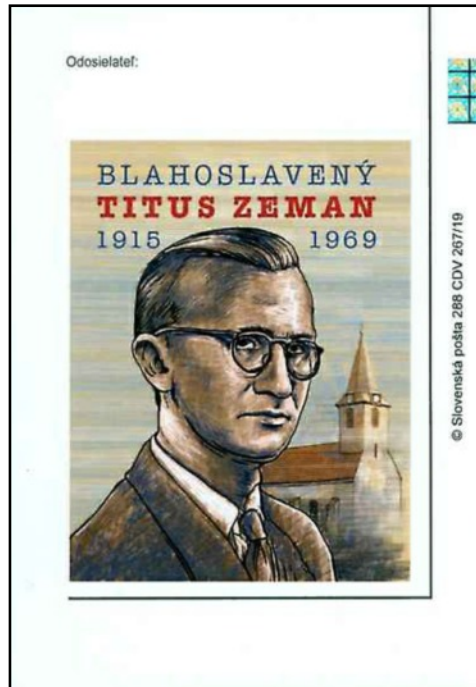


Fig. 39

20. On January 6, 2019, the Ministry issued a prepaid postal card with additional imprint to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Titus Zeman. The imprinted stamp with the designated value T2 50g shows the logo of “Good Idea Slovakia”. The additional print, designed by Adrian Ferda, has a portrait of The Blessed Titus Zeman (Fig. 39). Zeman (1915-1969) was a Catholic priest of the Order of Salesians of Don Bosco. After the communist regime banned religious orders in April 1950, Zeman worked to help Salesians escape to Italy. Two missions enabled over 60 members to escape. A third trip in April 1951 brought about his arrest, interrogation and torture. His trial resulted in a 25-year sentence, but he was paroled in 1964 due to extremely poor health, which led to his early death. His beatification was approved by Pope Francis in 2017.

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