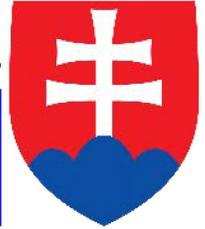




THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



OFFICIAL QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY,
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Newly issued Czech Republic stamp celebrates the oldest operational tram in Central Europe. The hexagonal design is a prototype for future stamps in the "My Own Stamps" series.

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THE ENDLESS CHARM OF CENTURY-OLD MAKULATURA

Part 2

by František Beneš

translated by Lucie Harris and Ludvik Svoboda

[Ed. note: In Part 1 of this article we were introduced to makulatura. The article continues with more detailed information on the various types of makulatura]

Single Print



Fig. 17a

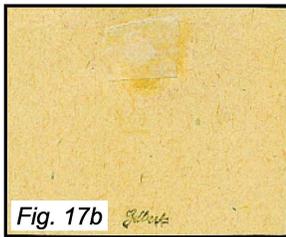


Fig. 17b

This case is the collector's favorite, mainly because of its form and perhaps also because they believe that it was actually created in connection with the printing of this value, especially since in the vast majority of cases it bears its color. Old experts (e.g. R. Gilbert) referred to such prints as "trial prints" (Fig. 17a,b), and are listed and valued as such by the Pofis 2015 catalog *Československo 1918-1939*, p. 19.

In reality, in the preponderance of cases, it is not a trial print in the true sense of the word, because it was cut out of a sheet, whose area was mostly occupied by multiple prints (therefore "makulatura"), and only on the edges were there one or two columns or rows with single printing (Fig. 18).

It could happen like this – when the machine operator placed the sheet on the left stop and made an imprint, then turned the paper 180 degrees and put it back on the same stop. If the printing form was not perfectly centered on the sheet, the second imprint was made in a shifted position in comparison with the first one, and so it happened that the edge columns of the stamps of the first imprint and the opposite edge columns of the second print were not covered by other printing. Thus, on one sheet there was "makulatura" with multiple printing on most of its surface, and on its edges there were "trial prints" with single printing. It was even possible to cut out a double strip, of which one stamp had a double print and one stamp had a single print (Fig. 19).



Fig. 18

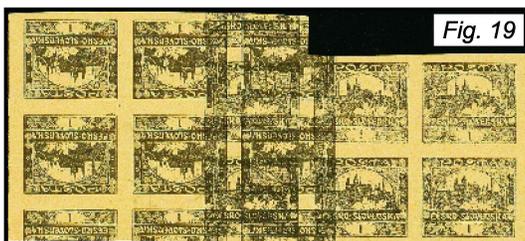


Fig. 19

There are also cases where most of the area of the "sheet" is single print, and double printing is done only on the first two or three columns of the stamps.

Therefore, from the point of view of labeling, the term "trial print" used in this context is incorrect.

In defense of our expert predecessors, we must state that if a single stamp, strip, or block is cut out from such a sheet, their origin cannot be recognized (but we can show it on larger blocks). Since there are also real trial prints from sheets with single printing and during a control print, for example, after plate cleaning (thus they do not have to be a part of the KČF "allotment"), it was difficult or even impossible to distinguish them from each other.



Fig. 20a

Fig. 20b

Fig. 20c

Single print stamps are a popular part of collections, whether as "trial prints," replacement of an otherwise unavailable item (especially imperforate values of the 10h, 20h, and 30h Type V stamps) (Figs. 20a,b,c), or even as an example of specialization, besides other evidence, that this or that difference was on the printing plate at some stage of printing stamps. Let us note that some prints on makulatura paper were undoubtedly created before the printing of the specific value was started. An example is the 75h Hradčany value with large damage to the right frame (Fig. 21), which was eliminated before the stamps began to be printed, and therefore occurs only on

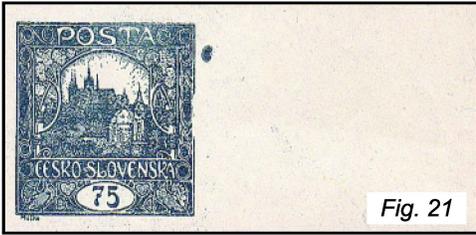


Fig. 21

trial prints (in this case, on yellowish makulatura paper without gum). From the point of view of the focus of this article, however, this is not a makulatura, as we have defined it for today's purposes, but a real trial print which probably got on the market in a different way than through the KČF "allotment".

Generally it can be said, that "single" prints on makulatura paper do not seem to give us many opportunities for surprise, since they have been given attention by generations of our philatelic predecessors. A better option is the multi-printed makulatura, that most philatelists have looked at (and still do) with some contempt, which is a good opportunity for observant collectors.

Double or multiple prints of a single value

This does not occur as often as se-tenant prints of multiple values, but we can still usually encounter them. The range of forms in which we can find it is very wide – from only a slightly shifted position to a significantly shifted one. Positions that are opposite of each other also occur.

Popular, for example, are small shifts of the purple 30h Hradčany stamp, thanks to the doubling this makes the light stamp look dark. We can include individual pieces of this value in our collection in both types. Strips and blocks with single and double printing on which we can document joined types (reciprocally slightly shifted) are definitely worth being examined – with these it is not so easy to tell which type it is (Fig. 22).



Fig. 22: Se-tenant print (Type I on the top left, the rest of the stamps are Type II); in the sky of all four stamps is a distinct spot.

Other examples include the pictured blocks containing same-directional se-tenant prints of light green 5h and purple 25h stamps, with connected spiral and partition types (Figs. 23 and 24).

Double or multiple prints of different values

Stamps cut up into individual pieces are the least popular forms, if only because in the differently shifted maze of printed components of different values, it is difficult to know whether the "main stamp" (that is, the one whose image is contained in its entirety) carries anything interesting.



Fig. 23

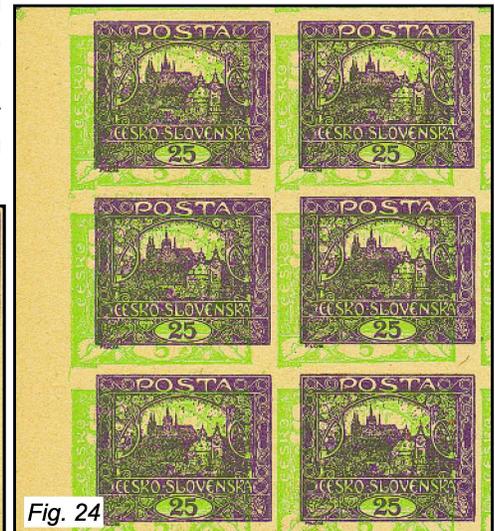


Fig. 24

This is why strips and blocks are more popular and more worthy of examination, because in the simple positional configuration of individual prints we can identify various curiosities, such as plate defects, retouches, and especially different types.

An example is the illustrated 15-block corner containing the 25h blue stamps and oppositely executed double imprints of 15h stamps (Fig. 25). They are shifted horizontally relative to each other, and all 11(!) different spiral and partition types of the upper-left corner block of the 15h Printing Plate 1 are nevertheless still obviously seen in the gaps between the 25h stamps.

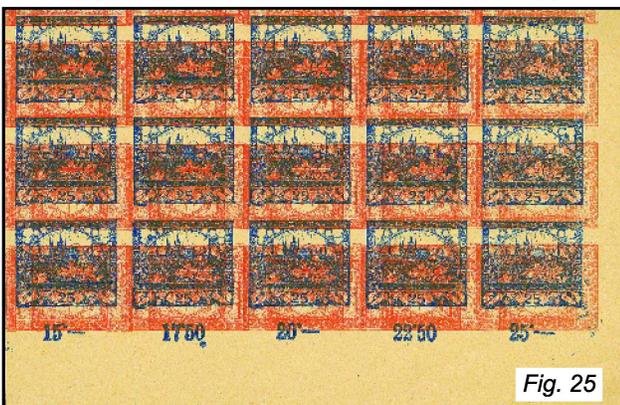


Fig. 25

Such cases are, of course, worth looking for, because with a little luck, we can literally for next to nothing get an unrecognized curiosity among the unjustly overlooked material.

Print color

The vast majority of makulatura have the color of the issued stamp. Exceptions are infrequent and often even rare, so they are worth looking for. Examples are: 15h in the green color of the 5h Type V design (Fig. 26), 5h and 10h Type I design in brown (Figs. 27 & 28) (and even their se-tenant printing) (Fig. 29), 5h Type I design in purple (Fig. 30), 100h in the green color of the 20h Type I design (Fig. 31), 500h in a red color (Fig. 32), and we could give a number of other examples.



However, beware of different colors that apparently arrive as a result of se-tenant printing. An example is a stamp with a pretty precise se-tenant print of a light green 5h and a blue 25h, which at first glance gives the impression that it is a green 25h Type I design stamp (pictured above) (Fig. 33).

The yellow 40h (Fig. 34) and green 60h (Fig. 35) are not color exceptions or deviations, they are makulatura of the Red Cross issues.

Lacquer (oil) prints

A popular curiosity – which is also noted by the 2015 Pofis catalog *Československo 1918-1939*, p. 19 – was a test of colors that were in the end not used to print stamps (Figs. 36 & 37). They are known only for some values, and can be recognized by their heavily imprinted paper, made with a thick layer of glossy paint (Figs. 38 & 39), which when viewed obliquely under a magnifying glass, tends to be cracked on the surface (similar to old oil paintings). Sometimes it gives the impression of double printing, slightly shifted printing, skidded or smeared printing. Only rarely is it a genuine double print. Attention should therefore be given not to mistake them with stamps that have actual, slightly shifted double printing, but made with the normal color (it most similarly appears on the 3h value, on which however the lacquer color is not yet noted in the literature – even when it exists).

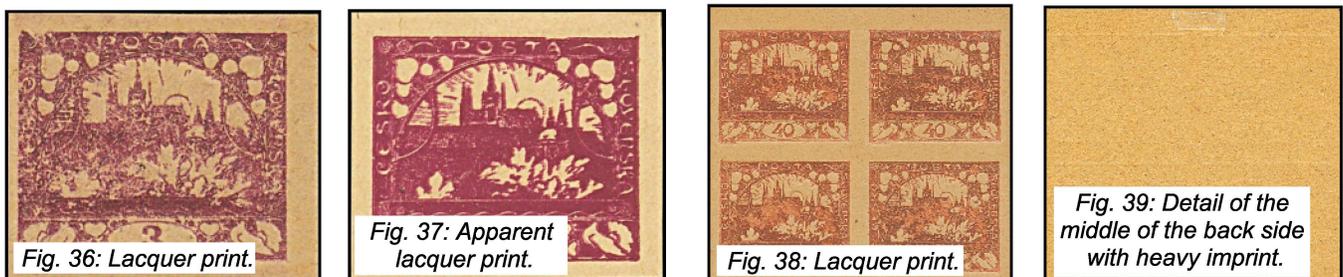




Fig. 40

Black prints

They occur quite rarely with single (Fig. 40) or multiple printing (Fig. 41). They are popular among collectors, because they often rank them with black prints on white chalk paper. They are also known with otherwise rarely occurring partial sheet imprints (Fig. 42).

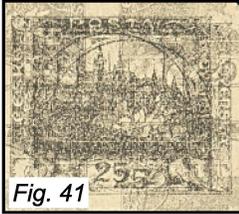


Fig. 41

Recess print

A 10h I design stamp printed on makulatura paper by recess printing occurs now and then (Fig. 43). Also known are pieces with offsets on which the recess print grid is particularly noticeable (Figs. 44 & 45).



Fig. 43



Fig. 44

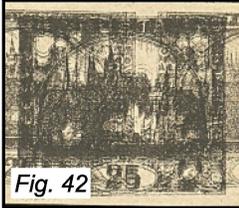


Fig. 42

Double-sided print

We cannot forget makulatura printed on both sides, a form that occurs quite rarely (Figs. 46 & 47). One side usually has only a single print, while the other side's image is a result of shifts of pieces of many stamps put together (Figs. 48 & 49). Only if a cutting was made with this single print in mind (which at that time did not seem attractive to the "cutters") is the "single" stamp entirely whole, and the ones on the other side are incomplete; however, the opposite case is more common.

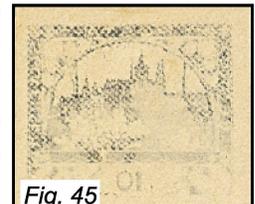


Fig. 45



Fig. 46



Fig. 47

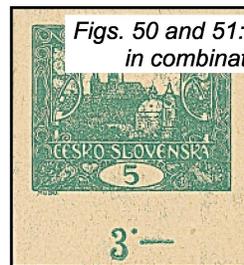
Now and then we can find multiple prints on both sides, but this form is not sought after very much by collectors. Double-sided prints in combination with offsets can also occur (Figs. 50 & 51).



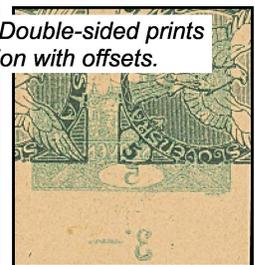
Fig. 48



Fig. 49



Figs. 50 and 51: Double-sided prints in combination with offsets.



Offsets

Offsets occur even on makulatura, especially machine, complete, or partial offsets, of varying intensities. This is a result of a situation where a printing plate with ink applied lands on its counterpart without paper having been inserted into the machine. The ink is then "printed" on the opposite surface from where it is then offset on the back of the paper of further prints. The imprint on the first sheet is prominent and then gets weaker with each sheet until the ability to create an offset is completely lost.



Figs. 52 and 53: Here, and with the next block, the "scissors" preferred the back side with the single print over the front with multiple prints.



Figs. 54 and 55: Meticulously done machine offset (the image covers the whole area) offers examination of the details.

Those who were separating the stamps from the sheets were evidently aware of the offset's attractiveness to collectors, so they often adapted the cut and chose the "main stamp" to be the one on which the offset occurred. On the front, in the case of multiple prints, image details are often obscured and indistinct, while on a sharp offset we can



Fig. 56



Fig. 57

identify them easily (for example different types). It is thus worth looking at the back of makulatura, there may be a pleasant surprise hidden there (Figs. 52,53,54 & 55).



108— Fig. 58 120—

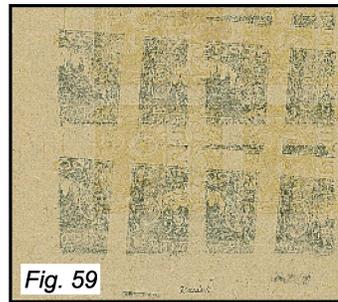


Fig. 59

Sheet offsets may also occur, the same as with ordinary stamps, but this is a relatively rare occurrence (with usually only a weak imprint).

An interesting case is the makulatura print of a 15h stamp on thicker yellow paper, made in the original color of the stamp, but with an offset on the back in green (Figs. 56 & 57).

With a little attention (and luck of course), we can also find offsets in unusual forms.

Only rarely do we find two offsets together – the definitive one is in the standard form, the 120h is in an unusual form (Figs. 58 & 59).

Issues and their combinations

Most commonly makulatura occur with the issues of the Hradčany, Newspaper, and Postage Due stamps (with these and the following issues, either within an issue or within combinations).

The occurrence of Dove, Liberated Republic (Fig. 60), and Special Delivery issues (Fig. 61) is slightly less common.



Fig. 62



Fig. 63

Much less common are makulatura with the Legionnaire (Fig. 62), T.G. Masaryk (Fig. 63), Hussite (Fig. 64), Agri-culture and Science 1920 (Fig. 65), and Red Cross issues (Fig. 66).

Only rarely can you meet up with makulatura paper having Agri-culture and Science 1923 prints (Fig. 67).

Makulatura with Airmail 1920 issues (Fig. 68) are particularly popular, which in fact apparently originate from sources besides the KČF "allotment", and do not occur in combination with other issues.

With multiple prints of different values or perhaps different issues, the most common combinations are Hradčany – Hradčany, Hradčany – Newspaper, Hradčany – Postage Due, Postage Due – Postage Due,



Fig. 64



Fig. 65

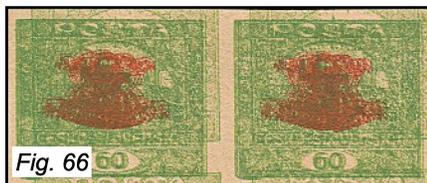


Fig. 66



Fig. 67

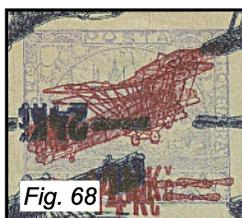


Fig. 68

Newspaper – Newspaper. Less common are combinations of the above stated issues, or combinations with them, such as Legionnaire – Hradčany (Fig. 69), Legionnaire – Newspaper (Fig. 70), Newspaper – Postage Due (Fig. 71), Postage Due – Hradčany (Figs. 72 & 73), and Newspaper – Postage Due – Hradčany (Fig. 74).

All of the foregoing gives us extraordinarily wide possibilities for collecting makulatura – from simple (essentially accidentally collected) examples of a diversified general collection, to focusing on individual issues, documenting colors and paper thickness, and up to collecting all achievable se-tenant combinations of issues and values. Of course, we can go much further, to whatever direction our fantasies and studies take us.



Fig. 60



Fig. 61



Fig. 69



Fig. 70

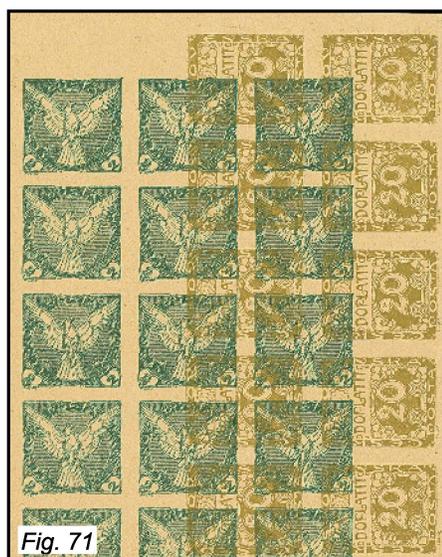


Fig. 71

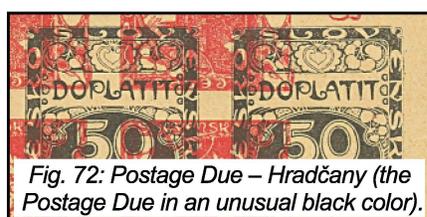


Fig. 72: Postage Due – Hradčany (the Postage Due in an unusual black color).

[Ed. note: The final part of this article, which will be in the Fall issue of the Specialist, will include sections on Postal Stationery, Curiosities, and Values].

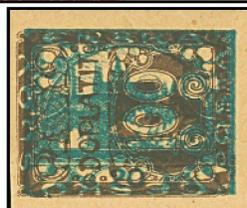


Fig. 73: Postage Due – Hradčany (rare case where the prints are on



Fig. 74: Newspaper – Postage Due – Hradčany (a multiple print of se-tenant prints of stamps of three issues. It is interesting as a curiosity, but from the standpoint of edification it is tough to



Following Up on Provisional Newspaper Stamps Article by James A Buckner

One of the more delightful things about conceiving, researching and writing an article for *The Specialist* is what one learns during the process. It is even better when new knowledge comes after the fact, and from a friend. Such is the case with the article I wrote for the Spring 2022 issue – *Czechoslovak Provisional Newspaper Stamps, 1918-1919*.

In the article, I describe a number of provisional stamps and their reason for being. Among those covered, two provisional stamps from the publisher *Národní politika* (National Policy) were featured on page 14, paragraph 2. One of the stamps featured a prominent red cross and the word “**Gratis**”. In describing this stamp, I wrote, “It was the policy of the publisher of *Národní politika*, going back to the Austrian Empire (pre-independence era, to send complimentary copies of the publication to soldiers in hospitals”. I remember being vaguely puzzled by this fact at the time of researching and writing the original article, but obviously not enough to stop and delve deeper into its meaning.

In June I was fortunate to spend a week in Prague, during which time I had arranged to meet fellow member and long-time contributor to the *Specialist*, **Lubor Kunc**. During our meeting, where we naturally discussed various philatelic topics over several glasses of beer, I told Lubor about the article and asked about research in the archives of the Postal Museum, making the further comment that all I had was secondary resources available to me and that some of those contained errors. For example, several catalogs stated that the Type I provisional stamp from *Národní politika* was produced in sheets of 24 (6x4), yet I possessed two sheets of 32 (8x4)! He told me that the subject area was full of errors. Lubor pointed out to me an article in *Filatelie* he had written in 2010 about the two stamps from *Národní politika*. In the article, Lubor outlines that what is described in catalogs as provisional stamp Type II should really be Type I, since circumstances led to its production and use beginning in the second half of November 1914 (Fig. 1). The phrase that puzzled me earlier now made sense. This provisional stamp had been in use earlier than I had known.



Figure 1

Even before my article appeared, I had learned something new and unexpected about the provisional newspaper stamps. This is the true value about researching and writing about a topic one is interested in learning about, because the learning never stops. I invite other interested persons to send me information or updates on this topic as they know it. You can contact me at wellseats@hotmail.com. I hope that my experience will encourage others to write about their favorite areas of Czech and Slovak philately.

REFERENCES:

1. Lubor Kunc: *Nouzove novinove známky Národní politiky*; *Filatelie* 10/2010, pages 18-21.
2. Lubor Kunc: *Nouzove novinove známky Národní politiky*; *Filatelie* 11/2010, pages 14-17.

CZECHOSLOVAK PERFINS VALUATION

by Joe Coulbourne

I often get asked the question, “What are my perfins worth?”, or another question, “How much should I expect to pay ...?”. These can be quite difficult questions to answer. To demonstrate, let me discuss what I consider to be the sources of value. First, the open market as represented by eBay. Secondly, a recent Czechoslovak Society of Perfin Collectors and Slovak Society of Perfin Collectors auction. Thirdly, the new *Monografie 24* Czechoslovak Perfins Catalog that does speak to value and uses a point system where one point represents .10 € or 2.5 Kč. Recently, there appeared on eBay, almost 30 lots of Czechoslovak perfins, for which I captured the data for use in an article such as this.

| Lot Number | Description of Lot | Reserve | Sales Price | Number of Bidders | Number of Bids |
|--------------|---|---------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 194980723530 | Czechoslovakia - Collection of 18 Perfins DDF 12 | \$4.25 | \$5.50 | 2 | 2 |
| 194980723897 | Czechoslovakia - Collection of 40 Perfins DDF 08 | \$8.95 | \$9.50 | 2 | 2 |
| 194980724602 | Czechoslovakia 1929 - 2,5k Statue of St. Wenceslas, Prague Coll. of 8 Perfins DDF | \$2.25 | \$3.25 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980724914 | Czechoslovakia 1927 - 2k Pernstein Castle Collection of 6 Perfins DDF | \$1.99 | \$2.25 | 2 | 2 |
| 194980725234 | Czechoslovakia 1925 - President Masaryk Collection of 11 Perfins DDF | \$2.75 | \$6.50 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980725632 | Czechoslovakia 1925 - 1k President Masaryk Collection of 26 Perfins DDF | \$5.95 | \$10.50 | 4 | 6 |
| 194980726013 | Czechoslovakia - Collection of 25 Perfins DDF 11 | \$5.75 | \$9.50 | 4 | 6 |
| 194980726383 | Czechoslovakia - Collection of 27 Perfins DDF 10 | \$6.25 | \$9.27 | 4 | 4 |
| 194980726812 | Czechoslovakia - Collection of 40 Perfins DDF 07 | \$8.95 | \$12.50 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980727071 | Czechoslovakia - Collection of 40 Perfins DDF 09 | \$8.95 | \$10.50 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980727307 | Czechoslovakia 1919/1920 - Hradcany at Prague Imp. Collection of 46 Perfins DDF | \$10.25 | \$52.00 | 4 | 8 |
| 194980727657 | Czechoslovakia 1919/1920 - Hradcany at Prague Perf. Collection of 21 Perfins DDF | \$4.95 | \$27.00 | 4 | 6 |
| 194980727910 | Czechoslovakia 1920 - Agriculture and Science Collection of 26 Perfins DDF | \$5.95 | \$16.50 | 3 | 4 |
| 194980728142 | Czechoslovakia 1920 - Breaking Chains to Freedom Collection of 35 Perfins DDF | \$7.95 | \$14.27 | 3 | 6 |
| 194980728383 | Czechoslovakia 1920 - Carrier Pigeon with Letter Collection of 47 Perfins DDF | \$10.45 | \$21.50 | 3 | 4 |
| 194980728574 | Czechoslovakia 1923 - Agriculture and Science Collection of 55 Perfins DDF | \$12.25 | \$20.50 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980728766 | Czechoslovakia 1925 - President Masaryk Collection of 18 Perfins DDF | \$4.25 | \$7.50 | 4 | 4 |
| 194980728986 | Czechoslovakia 1926 - Hradcany at Prague Collection of 10 Perfins DDF | \$2.49 | \$4.25 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980729310 | Czechoslovakia 1926 - President Masaryk Collection of 17 Perfins DDF | \$3.99 | \$5.50 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980729749 | Czechoslovakia 1929 - Coat of Arms Collection of 28 Perfins DDF | \$6.45 | \$7.50 | 2 | 2 |
| 194980730154 | Czechoslovakia 1930 - President Masaryk Collection of 26 Perfins DDF | \$5.99 | \$8.50 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980730592 | Czechoslovakia 1933 - 60h Miroslav Tyrs Collection of 7 Perfins DDF | \$1.99 | \$3.25 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980730846 | Czechoslovakia 1935 - 1k Masaryk Collection of 12 Perfins DDF | \$2.99 | \$4.25 | 3 | 3 |
| 194980731136 | Czechoslovakia 1936 - 2k Castle at Zvikov Collection of 4 Perfins DDF | \$1.99 | \$2.25 | 2 | 2 |
| 194980731513 | Czechoslovakia 1936 - 40h Jan Amos Komensky Collection of 5 Perfins DDF | \$1.99 | \$2.25 | 2 | 2 |
| 194980731862 | Czechoslovakia 1948 - Pres. Klement Gottwald Collection of 7 Perfins DDF | \$1.99 | \$2.25 | 2 | 2 |

These lots contained different perfins, either the perfin pattern was different or the face/denomination of the stamp was different. 575 different die or face (DDF) perfins sold for a grand total of \$278.54, for an average sales value of \$0.48. Three of the lots were special as they contained either rare Hradčany, or stamps which are rarely found with perfins.

Recently, I was notified of my winnings in the Czechoslovak Society of Perfin Collectors and Slovak Society of Perfin Collectors auction. I present a breakdown below.

The pattern types are from *Monografie 24*¹ and although the Pofis numbers for the stamps are not provided, they can be found in Auction 2022-1. Almost all perfins were fully punched and stamps were in fine or better condition as can be expected when collectors sell to collectors. In summary, I won 44 lots with a starting price of 1,270 Kč and will wind up paying 5,248 Kč. At this precise moment, the exchange rate is low, and the value equates to approximately \$221. In summary, for the 44 lots I won in a collector auction, I paid



Note the 500h Masaryk Pofis 141
and Pofis 332 with coupon



Note the Hradčany perfins and for the imperforate lot, the 1000h perfin in the lower right corner of the left hand graphic. This perfin is one of the rarest Hradčany perfins and is avidly sought after by Hradčany perfin collectors.

approximately \$5 for each perfin. I would also like to add that I did not win all the lots I bid on!

For the Monografie 24 comparison of values let's pick several rows from the collector auction and see how prices compare to the catalog. For this I chose rows 61 to 68. Full descriptions follow below. Please know that the auction included graphics of the fronts and backs of all perfins for the bidder to see the stamp and perfin prior to bidding. In my view, this was very wise and helped increase prices gained for the lots. For this comparison, I won all lots except for lot 63.

As can be seen in the auction listing the lot number is to the far left, then pattern number description, period of use, stamp description/value and Pofis number. The column beginning with '9' is the base price in points (1 point = 0.10 € or 2.50 Kč). There was no supplemental pricing (the blank column) and I pasted the realized price in that column for comparison. The last column was the auctioneers estimate. One can quickly see that every lot

| Lot No. | Perfin | Starting price Kč | Final price Kč | Lot No. | Perfin | Starting price Kč | Final price Kč | | |
|---------|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------|--------|-------------------|----------------|----|-----|
| 1 | A5 | A.B. | 50 | 170 | 54 | N9 | NETTL | 20 | 220 |
| 2 | A7 | A.B. | 50 | 140 | 56 | O2 | OBEW. | 26 | 60 |
| 3 | A28 | A.H. | 18 | 34 | 61 | P24 | P.P. | 22 | 46 |
| 5 | A64.5 | A.R. | 30 | 380 | 62 | P35 | P.Z.F. | 50 | 300 |
| 7 | A77 | A.W. | 20 | 90 | 64 | R15 | R.C. | 22 | 65 |
| 11 | B13 | B.B. | 30 | 160 | 65 | R17 | RD | 22 | 32 |
| 14 | B29 | B.D./&C. | 22 | 70 | 66 | R19 | R.D./Z. | 22 | 70 |
| 16 | B37 | BELTI | 15 | 26 | 67 | R20 | Reach | 20 | 65 |
| 18 | B45 | B.F./&C. | 30 | 120 | 68 | R22 | R.ésT. | 20 | 400 |
| 20 | B54 | B.I.B. | 22 | 75 | 72 | 89 | S.A. | 40 | 140 |
| 21 | B60.5 | BL | 20 | 60 | 74 | S13 | S.B. | 40 | 340 |
| 22 | B63.5 | B.N./H. | 5 | 360 | 75 | S19 | Sch.&Co | 20 | 90 |
| 23 | B86 | B.W. | 44 | 120 | 76 | S20.5 | SCH.&Co | 28 | 360 |
| 28 | C32 | Co | 16 | 22 | 77 | S23 | S.D. | 60 | 65 |
| 30 | E40 | E.R. | 20 | 36 | 79 | S24 | SBB | 22 | 65 |
| 35 | H2 | H | 26 | 42 | 82 | S30 | S.H.S. | 15 | 60 |
| 36 | H5 | HA/BO | 28 | 75 | 86 | 78 | Th.A.W. | 22 | 38 |
| 39 | J38 | J.G. | 30 | 90 | 89 | W8 | W&B | 30 | 110 |
| 47 | M6 | M | 18 | 32 | 91 | W31 | W.S. | 28 | 130 |
| 50 | M87 | M.R. | 16 | 90 | 92 | Y1 | Yost | 20 | 30 |
| 52 | N1 | N | 24 | 32 | 93 | Z4 | Zeller | 50 | 170 |
| 53 | N8.2 | N.E.K. | 22 | 28 | 98 | GB1 | GS | 95 | 140 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|---------|----|------------------------------|----|-----|----|
| 61 | P24 | PP | Č | H&V/1923 100h | 9 | 46 | 22 |
| 62 | P35 | P.Z.F. | Rk | FJ/1890 5Kr, těžší razítko | 30 | 300 | 50 |
| 63 | R3 | R | Č | Znak 20h, Pof. 250 | 4 | | 15 |
| 64 | R15 | R.C. | Č | H&V 1923, 100h, Pof. 173 | 9 | 65 | 22 |
| 65 | R17 | RD | Č | TGM/1925 1Kč | 9 | 32 | 22 |
| 66 | R19 | R.D./Z. | R | FJ/1908 10H | 9 | 70 | 22 |
| 67 | R20 | Reach | Rk | FJ/1890 5Kr, těžší razítko | 11 | 65 | 20 |
| 68 | R22 | R.ésT. | U | Turul 10f, rozmazané razítko | 10 | 400 | 20 |

sold above the estimate and that most sold for multiples of the estimate and above the catalog value. Lot 62 had the highest initial catalog value at 30 points or 75 Kč although the auctioneer discounted the lot to only 50 Kč. It sold for 6 times the estimate and 4 times the catalog value at a winning bid of about \$12. The final lot of the bunch, lot 68, had an estimate of 10 points or about \$1.20 with a reserve of \$0.96. It sold for 20 times the estimate and 16 times the catalog value.

So what is one to make of all this number and price mashing? If you are a collector, eBay is worth your time to watch and pick off lots that fill spots in your collection. You will score your best bargains here, but it is all by chance. You must hope that the perfins you need appear at some time and get put up for sale. A perfin collector should hunt the perfin auctions to find those rare or extremely difficult to find perfins to fill holes in their collection. That same collector should be prepared to pay more at an auction than on eBay as the perfin value justifies the investment.

A seller should use the collector auction as that will bring the highest return for what they have for sale. An auction is a bit more work for the seller as he must describe the lot and that description includes identification of individual perfins, determination of catalog number, etc. The collector should use eBay to sell common material or perfins that are not well punched or damaged in some way. This material is attractive to the beginner who has few perfins and is beginning to assemble a collection for the first time.

So, what does this mean to a Czechoslovak stamp collector looking to start a perfin collection?

1. Perfins are not as rare as many sellers on eBay try to make them out to be.
2. Perfin bargains can be found on eBay.
3. Collector auctions are the prime location to find those rare and scarce perfins.
4. Perfin collecting is easy on the wallet or purse.

I leave you with this thought. When was the last time you filled a hole in your stamp collection for \$5 or less? Most collectors reach a point where collecting is limited by finances. Finances are not so much of a limitation with perfin collecting. Happy hunting and I hope you will join our ranks!

References:

1. *Monografie Československých A Českých Známeč A Poštovní Historie, 24 Díl, Perfiny Z Území Československá*: Vladimír Münzberger, Oldřich Špreňar, 2022

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@csphilately.org or by check to:



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SOCIETY FOR HUNGARIAN PHILATELY



If you are a collector/enthusiast of that period when Czechoslovak and Hungarian philately overlaps, as well as the earlier shared postal history, you should consider joining the **Society for Hungarian Philately (SHP)**. Annual membership includes four issues of *The News of Hungarian Philately*, access to member's sections of their website, and participation in their quarterly auction.

Annual dues are \$25 for N. America, \$30 Worldwide, or \$20 for online access only. You can join by following the link on the home page of their website, www.hungarianphilately.org, using PayPal (adding \$1 to whichever level you require), or direct to the treasurer:

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Celebrating Anniversaries for Adolf Absolon and Václav Fajt by Keith Hart

During 2022 we have celebrated significant birthdays for two venerable stamp designers – the graphic designer Adolf Absolon and the engraver Václav Fajt.

Adolf Absolon celebrated his 85th birthday on July 14, 2022. It is somewhat unusual that he came to design stamps, as his training and premier vocation is as a paleontologist. Following this profession he made many sketches and paintings of natural features throughout the world. His first postage stamp design came in 1995 with two stamps of unusual rock formations, one of which



Figure 1

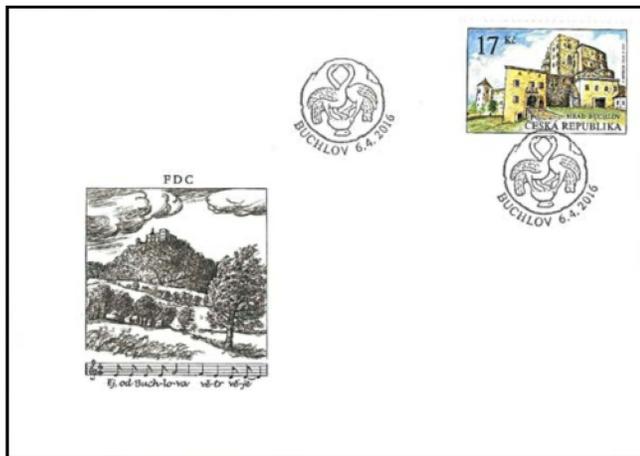


Figure 2

was the natural arch at Hřenska [Pofis 79] (Fig. 1).

Early in his career Absolon worked with many engravers, but it is his partnership with the engraver Martin Srb that is best known and has provided spectacular interpretations of Absolon's work, as well as supplying us with unforgettable FDC cachets (Fig. 2). Absolon has given us exceptional designs of beautiful natural features, historic buildings and structures. His design total stands today at 42 stamps, including one



Figure 3

from this year, giving us hopes that we can enjoy some further examples of his technical mastery. On the occasion of his 85th birthday the Czech Post Office issued a folder containing a commemorative print of his 2007 stamp celebrating the 650th anniversary of Charles Bridge (Fig. 3). A black print of the stamp was also provided. On the other side of the folder is a commemorative sheet featuring the same stamp.



Figure 4

Václav Fajt celebrated his 70th birthday on August 4, 2022. From an early age he wanted to design and engrave postage stamps but was unable to do so because you had to be a member of the Creative Artists Union. In order to be a member of that society you were obliged to also be a member of the Communist Party, which Fajt felt unable to do.

It was not until the early 1980s that this regulation was gradually relaxed and Fajt's first stamps came in 1983 issues in the *Nature Protection* series (Fig 4) and he has gone on to engrave 64 stamps for Czechoslovakia, 154 for the Czech Republic, and 14 for Slovakia. These cover an extremely wide series of topics. He has engraved many stamps for the *Works of Art on Stamps* (Fig. 5) and *Personalities* series, as well as themes from history (Fig. 6 on page 12) His current total of 232 stamps puts him firmly in the top rank of engravers over the last century and we are hoping for many



Figure 5

more. On the date of his 70th birthday the Czech Post Office issued a folder containing a commemorative print with two 2004 stamps from the *Beauties of Our Country* series (designed by Antonín Odehnal), which included a black print. The commemorative sheet within the folder features the same two stamps.

FIGURE REFERENCES:

1. Beauties of Our Country – Pravčická Gate near Hřenska (Pofis 79, Scott 2957)
2. Beauties of Our Country – Buchlov Castle (Pofis FDC 881, Scott 3667)
3. PRAGA 2008 – Charles Bridge 650th anniversary (Pofis 519, Scott 3352)
4. Nature Protection in Czechoslovakia – Gray Heron (Pofis 2590, Scott 2459)
5. Works of Art on Postage Stamps – Antonín Machek: Portrait of Jan Malinský (Pofis 98, Scott 2975)
6. Czech Statehood – Statue of Jan Hus (Pofis 865, Scott 3654a)



Focus on Covers

ONE COVER – THREE PRESIDENTS

by Keith Hart

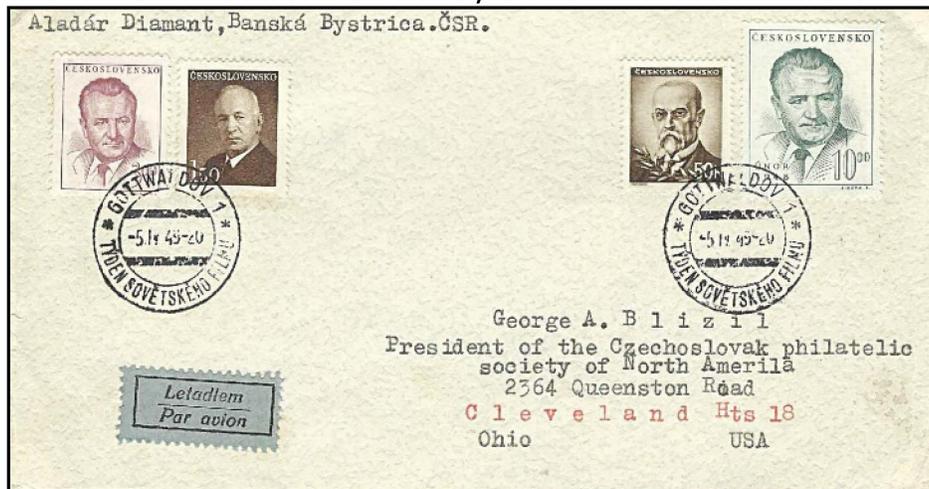


Figure 6

An interesting cover in that it contains stamps featuring the first three Presidents of Czechoslovakia – Tomáš Masaryk, Edvard Beneš, and Klement Gottwald. The Masaryk stamp is the 50h, part of the “Portraits” series from October 1945 (Pofis 414, Sc. 301). The 1.50 Kčs stamp of Beneš is from a series of three stamps issued in February 1948 (Pofis 464, Sc. 340). The two stamps of Gottwald, using the same image, came from two different series. The 3 Kčs stamp from a series of five from October 1948 (Pofis 487, Sc. 364) and is the Type I variant with a gap in the line of the jacket lapel. The 10 Kčs stamp is from the series of two issued on February 25, 1949 (Pofis 409, Sc. 373), which marked the first anniversary of Victorious February, the coup that brought the communists to power.

The occasional cancellation from April 5, 1949 marks the Week of Soviet Film (Týden Sovětského filmu), but more interestingly bears the post office mark of Gottwaldov 1. Until the aforementioned February 25, 1949, less than six weeks before this mailing, the city had been known as Zlín. This was at the height of the so-called “Cult of Personality” among communist leaders and it was obviously thought suitable to rename a city after Gottwald, who had been President for less than a year. He had no direct link with the city but had been born in a village not far away. As swiftly as this renaming had taken place, the opposite eventually happened as well. Immediately following the Velvet Revolution at the end of 1989, the city reverted to being Zlín on January 1, 1990.

The final point of interest is that the cover was mailed to George Blizil, who was member #173 in our Society. He was an accredited APS judge and also our APS representative for many years. He authored many articles for the



Specialist and pioneered study in several areas, including the 1945 Liberation Overprints. He served several terms as a director and one term as President. Unfortunately you probably cannot see this in the image but the letter was mailed in a beautiful envelope of a light cream color, with extremely fine marbling. It was also lined inside with gray tissue paper. Some classy stationery from the past.



Notes From Your Editor



At our Zoom Board meeting in June, we discussed the location of our yearly meetings for 2024 and 2025. We do have to plan these at least two, but preferably three, years in advance. The reason for this is that stamp shows have limited room for attending societies and meetings. Once these slots are filled it would be too late to attend that particular show.

For our 2024 location we were looking at West Coast locations, as it is some time since we convened close to the Pacific Ocean. In fact, by the time the 2024 meeting comes around, it will be 11 years since we were in San Francisco. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that the 2024 meeting will be at **PIPEX 2024**, in Portland, Oregon. It is a new venue for us and we are looking forward to seeing members from the Pacific Northwest there. I do not have the dates for the 2024 show yet, but the 2022 show was in early May and it is expected that 2024 will be around the same time. As soon as dates are available, and venue confirmed, you will be notified, either here in the *Specialist* or in an edition of the Newsletter (or perhaps even in both).

Another lengthy discussion was held regarding the 2025 location for our annual meeting and due to the lack of definite information regarding several of the venues we have put off a final decision until later in the year. The main reason for the lack of information is that the post-COVID world of stamp shows has changed somewhat. During the year or two of show suspension the organizers of many stamp shows took the opportunity to rethink where their shows might be located and many are being held in new (and perhaps temporary) locations this year. Three of the candidate's shows have yet to be held this year, and we will await feedback from those shows before a final decision is made. Hopefully we will be able to let you know our choice by the end of the year. The shortlist at present is St. Louis, MO (the show is typically held in March), Columbus, OH (June), Milwaukee, WI (September 16-18), Indianapolis, IN (October 7-9), and Chicago (November 18-20). If a member plans on attending any of these last three shows, we would welcome to hear

any personal feedback you could give us. It is always best to get as much input as you can get in order to make a decision.

Our June meeting also led us to make a change in our Board position of Membership Secretary. After an incredible period of service to the Society, **Tom Cossaboom** is stepping down as Membership Secretary. Tom has been Membership Secretary since 1993, with a four-year gap when he was President of the Society. The Board thanked Tom for his dedication to the task(s) which he filled with his knowledge and enthusiasm through three decades of work. Thankfully, Tom has agreed to carry on as a Board member and we will continue to enjoy his company at Board meetings for some time to come. I am pleased to tell you that **Marisa Galitz** has volunteered to take over the task of Membership Secretary with immediate effect. Added to her existing position of Treasurer, the Board is delighted that she has volunteered for this additional task.

During the past two months or so, I have been following a story from the Netherlands about the discovery of a World War II airplane that had been shot down on June 23, 1941. The RAF Wellington bomber had been returning from a bombing raid over Bremen. It had a Czechoslovak crew from 311 Squadron and five bodies had been discovered and identified. It was decided that they would be buried at the Bergen op Zoom Military Cemetery in the Netherlands and this was carried out with great ceremony at the end of June. It was a surprise when I learned that one of those who had been killed, Alois Rozum, was the great-uncle of our friend and SCP member, **Lubor Kunc**. Lubor was in attendance at the funeral. Besides **Alois Rozum**, who was the co-pilot, the others killed were radio-operator **Leonard Smrček**, navigator **Vilém Konštatský**, front gunner **Jan Hejna**, and rear gunner **Karel Valach**. They gave their lives in defense of the freedom of Europe, which of course reminds us of others fighting for the same today in Ukraine. I am glad that their families have at last been given some closure to the grief caused by their deaths. A non-philatelic item but I hope you do not mind its inclusion in my notes.

- Keith Hart

New Issues

Ed. note: Unless otherwise stated all issues from both countries are printed by Tiskárna Hradištko, s.r.o using multi-color offset.

CZECH REPUBLIC

by Keith Hart

1. On April 8, 2022 the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued a stamp in the series **EUROPA: Stories and Myths** [Pofis 1157]. The stamp has a value identified by the letter "E" (39 Kč). It was designed by Renáta Fučíková and produced in a miniature sheet containing six stamps. The image shows the figures of Libuše and Přemysl standing under a linden tree (Fig. 1). The legend of these two figures dates back to at least the 10th century A.D. and is the fictional back-story of the foundation of the



Figure 2

Přemyslid dynasty which ruled Bohemia from the 9th- 13th centuries. Princess Libuše was the daughter of Kroc, eventually succeeding him as ruler. She is thought of as the founder of Prague and famously foretold the fact that Prague would grow into a fantastically successful and beautiful city. She fell in love with Přemysl, a humble plowman, and their heirs became the rulers of the country. The FDC cachet shows a bronze jewel from the 10th century and depicts a scene similar to the subject matter of the stamp (Fig. 2). The cancellation motif is a spiral with the ends connecting in an endless loop.



Figure 1

2. On April 8, 2022 the Ministry issued a commemorative sheet in the series **Czech Actors and Actresses: Jan Werich and Stella Zázvorková** [Pofis 1158 and 1159]. The sheet contains two copies each of a 30 Kč and a 34 Kč stamp with a central coupon featuring a column surmounted by comedic masks (Fig. 3). The sheet was designed by Jan Mačet. The 30 Kč stamp shows **Jan Werich** (1905-1980) with three facial views showing him in different stages of his career. Werich was famed as an actor and dramatist. His long-standing partnership with Jiří Voskovec delighted the public in the 1920s and 30s. Their review saw them wearing clown-like masks and it was inspired by a combination of Japanese Noh theater and French farce. The wise personalities of their characters had verbal battles with stupid, officious people. They pilloried Fascist and Nazi ideals which led to them fleeing the country when the Nazi's occupied it. Returning after the war they briefly renewed their work until the communist government refused to let them touch on any political themes. Voskovec emigrated to the US in 1948 and Werich then



Figure 3

formed a new partnership with Miroslav Horníček which alternated between stage and film. He appeared in over 50 movies. Werich signed the *2000 Words* petition which voiced discontent over the communist crackdown on liberal reforms following the Prague Spring. His later signature on the communists *anti-Charter 77* unfortunately linked him directly with the regime and his career ended in 1977. The FDC cachet shows him in conversation with a seated Zázvorková (Fig. 4) and the cancellation is a line drawing of his head. The 34 Kč stamp celebrates the centenary of the birth of **Stella Zázvorková** (1922-2005). It depicts her in three stages of her career. Her theatrical career commenced in the 1940s, but really took off when Jan Werich hired her to act in the ABC theater in 1955. After this theater merged with Prague City

Theater she remained with that company until 1980. Her roles in many films, mainly comedies, made her an unmistakable actress. She is best remembered for her role as the mother in the Oscar winning *Kolya* in 1996. The FDC cachet shows her in conversation with a seated Jan Werich (Fig. 5) and the cancellation is a line drawing of her head. As with the previous issue for actors and actresses last year, the two cachets cleverly reveal the close professional relationship between them.

[Ed. note: Jan Werich has already appeared on two Czech Republic stamps, both from 1995 and in a short series: *Personalities of Liberated Theater* – Pofis numbers 68 and 87].

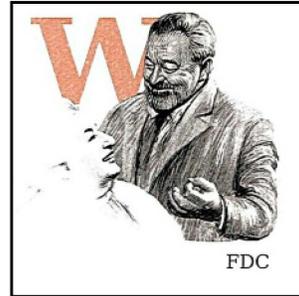


Figure 4



Figure 5

3. On May 18, 2022 the Ministry issued a commemorative



Figure 6

postage stamp **50 Years of the Philatelic Youth Olympiad** [Pofis 1160], with a value identified by the letter “B” (19 Kč). The stamp shows a boy holding a postage stamp, in the stance of a discus thrower (Fig. 6). This symbolically resembles the famous Greek sculpture *The Discobolus of Myron*. The stamp was designed by Jiří Slíva and printed in sheets of 50. A booklet with eight self-adhesive stamps and 2 x 2 different coupons was also issued [Pofis ZSL70]. The first event in 1972 was organized by the Great Moravia 56-10 Young Collector’s Club in Hodonín and was originally the idea of Josef Šolc. It was eventually taken over by the Youth Committee of the Union of Czechoslovak Philatelists. Each year a different subject is declared for the exhibits. After the split into two countries the competition has been organized by the Union of Slovak Philatelists. The FDC cachet was engraved by Bohumil Šneider and depicts famous postage stamps placed on a victory podium (Fig. 7) and the cancellation is a cap sporting a postage stamp logo.

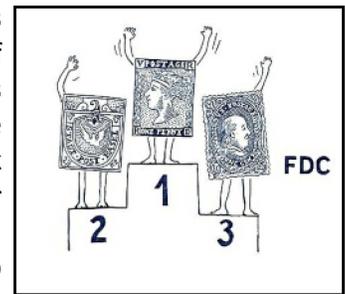


Figure 7



Figure 8

4. On May 18, 2022 the Ministry

issued a 23 Kč postage stamp to commemorate **150 Years of the Czech Beekeeper’s Association** [Pofis 1161]. Designed by Mikuláš Kavan the self-adhesive hexagonal stamp shows beehives and is set in a sheet of five with six different coupons depicting themes from the science of apiology (Fig. 8). The Beekeeping Association for Bohemia was established in 1872 and after 1918 it joined with Moravia’s Provincial Headquarters of Beekeeping Associations to form the Union of Provincial Beekeeping Associations. This was dissolved during the Nazi occupation. Reestablished in 1947 the Czech Beekeepers Association remains today, its main tasks being to recruit young people and to advance the science of beekeeping. The cachet of the FDC depicts historic beehives (Fig. 9) and the cancellation is a modern beehive.

[Ed. note: A previous stamp with a beekeeping motif was the Czechoslovak issue in 1963 to celebrate the XIX APIMONDIA International Beekeeping Congress in Prague (Pofis 1320)].

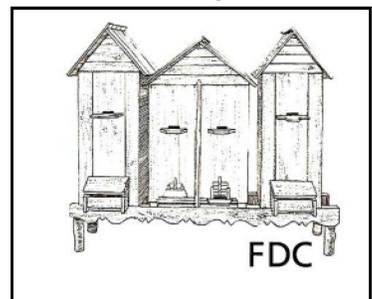


Figure 9

5. On May 18, 2022 the Ministry issued a sheet in the series **My Own Stamps:**



Figure 10

council. This agenda will have been recently amended to allow discussion and reaction to the war in Ukraine. The Czech Presidency would represent the EU in any negotiations with other international organizations regarding the war, which has come right to the borders of the EU, and in particular caused a massive refugee problem with people fleeing the war. During the Presidency the government is going to focus on issues within the internal market, as well as the extremely pressing matter of reducing energy use from fossil fuels (particularly those imported from Russia) and rapidly increasing energy production from renewable sources. The FDC cachet depicts the entire logo of this Presidency (Fig. 12) and the cancellation is one small piece of the logo.



Figure 13

7. On June 15, 2022 the Ministry issued an “E” value stamp to commemorate the **International Council of Museums (ICOM) General Conference - Prague 2022** [Pofis 1163]. The stamp, designed by Miroslav Roubiček, shows symbols related to Czech culture and history (Fig. 13) and it was produced in sheets of 50. Founded in 1946 ICOM brings together more than 3500 museums around the world, from 119 different countries. This represents almost 50,000 museum professionals and staff. Debates at this year’s conference will center around discussions on new technologies, sustainability, and the role of museums within their own communities. The conference will be held at The Prague Conference Center in Vyšehrad from August 20-28. It is estimated that Czech museums hold more than 65 million artifacts, ranging through time and culture from the Venus of Dolní Veštonice (the oldest known ceramic

Tereza Maxová [Pofis VZ ČP TL0001]. Designed by Zuzana Lednická, the sheet of 25 “B” value stamps has 25 different versions of a portrait of Tereza Maxová (Fig. 10). Ms Maxová is an internationally known model. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the foundation of her Tereza Maxová Foundation which was set up to help orphaned and disadvantaged children. The 25 different stamps were developed using contributions from 25 different children living in children’s homes within the Czech Republic.

6. On June 15, 2022 the Ministry issued a stamp with the designated value “E” (39 Kč) to mark the **Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union** [Pofis 1162]. The stamp was designed by Filip Heyduk and features a segment of the logo of this Presidency (Fig. 11). It was produced in sheets of 50. The EU Presidency alternates between the 23 member states and lasts for six months. There will have been detailed discussions both with the previous Presidency (France) and the following one (Sweden) to ensure a continuing agenda of items to be discussed at meetings of the



Figure 11



Figure 12

depiction of a female figure in the world), to the machine that produced the world’s first soft contact lenses. The FDC cachet features primary colored symbols of the city of Prague (Fig. 14) and the cancellation is an outline of a Cubist design.

8. On June 15, 2022 the Ministry issued a booklet of self-adhesive stamps in the series: **Young Animals – Kittens** [Pofis 1164 and 1165]. The two stamps, designed by Jitka Mašínová, have a value designated by the letter “B” and were issued in a booklet containing 10 (5x2) stamps (Fig. 15). One stamp features the head of a **Bengal kitten**.



Figure 15

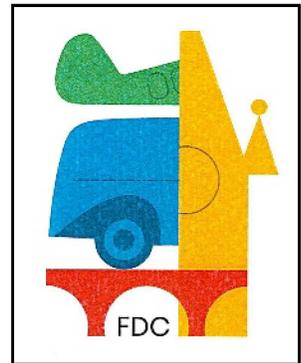


Figure 14

Bengal cats are unusual in that they like being in water. They are a unique breed – powerfully built, with a smaller head than average, and with a sleek aerodynamic body. Their distinct hoarse meow sounds almost as if they have a sore throat. The FDC cachet shows a kitten’s head (Fig. 16) and the cancellation is an outline of a sitting cat. The other stamp shows a **Persian kitten**, one of the world’s oldest

breeds. Arriving in Europe in the 17th century, they soon became a favorite of the aristocracy, because of their unusual appearance and coat color. Their long hair makes them a high-maintenance cat, but they are still one of the most recognizable and commonly found breeds in Czechia. The FDC cachet shows a kitten’s head (Fig. 17) and the cancellation is a line-drawing of a sleeping cat.

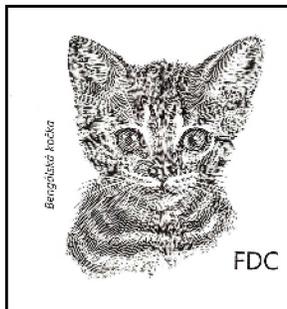


Figure 16

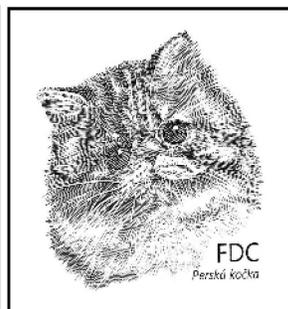


Figure 17

stamp, with a designated value defined by the letter “B”, was designed by Petr Ptáček and depicts a vintage Tram No. 18 (Fig. 18) on a hexagonal stamp, which was produced in a miniature sheet containing five stamps and six blank coupons. Tram No. 18 is the oldest operational tram in Central Europe that is still used for transportation. Built in the Plseň workshop of Václav Brožík and František Křížík, it was the first tram to run on the newly opened Plseň tramway on June 29, 1899. It can transport up to 18 passengers. Befitting its age, the elderly vehicle is only operated in daylight hours. It is also temporarily retired during winter weather. For around \$290 it is possible to hire it for an hour, with a further \$50 for each additional 15 minutes.



9. On June 15, 2022 the Ministry issued a definitive stamp: **Brožík & Křížík Tram** [Pofis 1166]. The



Figure 18

SLOVAKIA

1. On April 28, 2022 the Ministry of Transport and Construction issued a stamp in the series **Personalities: Klára Jarunková (1922-2005)** [Pofis 764]. The 1.20 € stamp depicts the head of the writer (Fig. 1) whose birth centenary is celebrated this year. It was designed by Katarína Slaninková and produced in sheets of 50. Jarunková’s working



Figure 1



Figure 2

life started as a teacher, but she soon moved on to jobs at Bratislava City Hall and Czech-Slovak Radio, before finding her home in the editorial offices of *Roháč* magazine. She became the most translated Slovak writer of the second half of the 20th century, being published in more than 40 languages. Most of her work is literature for children and teenagers. Generally she wrote in the first person, which allows the reader to empathize with the main character. *Hrdinský Zápisník* (Diary of a Hero), published in 1960, has stories of children adapting to student life. Her most translated novels are *Jediná dievčenský román* (Don't Cry for Me) and *Brat mlčanlivého vlka* (Brother of the Silent Wolf). Her fairy-tale for younger readers, *O psovi ktorý mal chlapca* (About a Dog That Had a Boy) is still extremely popular worldwide. The FDC cachet, engraved by Rudolf Cigánik, depicts characters escaping from an open book (Fig. 2) and the cancellation is a winged pen, writing the name of her birthplace.

2. On May 2, 2022 the Ministry issued a stamp in the series **EUROPA: Tales and Myths – Lomidrevo** [Pofis 765]. The 1.50 € stamp depicts Lomidrevo carrying two trees (Fig. 3). It was designed by Martin Kellenberger and produced in a miniature sheet of eight.

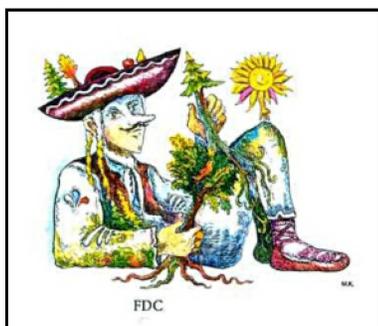


Figure 4

lands of the mid 1800s something as innocent as collecting and documenting folk stories was considered an act of rebellion by the Kingdom of Hungary. Despite the dangers Pavol Dobšinský traveled the country and collected stories from far and wide. Without his diligence to undertake this task many Slovak stories would not be known to us today. Superheroes in comic-books and movies are commonplace nowadays and this historical fable joins this group. Lomidrevo's name (literally The Woodbreaker) refers to his ability to rip large trees out of the ground with his bare hands.



Figure 3

Born as a massive baby, he grew up learning how to use his superhuman power to help 'normal' people. On his life journey he learns much about the world, overcoming dragons, and naturally finds a beautiful princess as a bride. The FDC cachet shows Lomidrevo resting (Fig. 4) and the cancellation is a dragon with a tree. A booklet containing six self-adhesive stamps was issued the same day, as was a collection sheet.

3. On May 27, 2022 the Ministry issued a 2.00 € stamp to commemorate **150 Years of Scientific Observations of the Earth** [Pofis 766]. The stamp shows symbols and images connected to scientific studies (Fig. 5) and was designed by Ľuboslav Paľo and printed in sheets of 50.

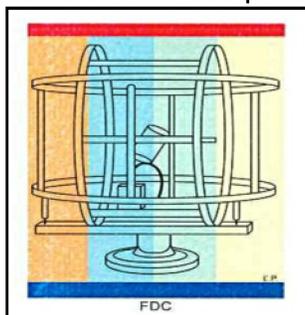


Figure 6

The observatory at Hurbanovo commenced meteorological records in 1872 and its uninterrupted observations have added to the global study of climate change. After 1890 the observatory began examination of the Earth's magnetic field, most importantly the measurements of magnetic declination, which is the deviation of magnetic north from the geographic north pole. The FDC motif is a Helmholtz coil (Fig. 6) which was used to cancel the Earth's magnetic field, essential for this particular line of study. The cancellation is a stylized view of the Earth within our solar system.



Figure 5

[Ed. note: This is issued just a year after another stamp for the establishment of the Hurbanovo Observatory [Pofis 742].

4. On June 10, 2022 the Ministry issued a 2.40 € stamp in the series **Beauties of Our Homeland: Manor House of Maria Theresa at Holíč** [Pofis 767]. The stamp shows the front of the house (Fig. 7) and it was designed and engraved by Martin Činovský. It was produced with a combination of recessed printing from a flat plate combined with multi-color offset, in a miniature sheet of six with a center image showing the star shaped plan of the building.



Figure 7

engraved FDC cachet depicts a detail of a door panel from the Chinese Hall in the house (Fig. 8) and the cancellation is another ornament from the same room.

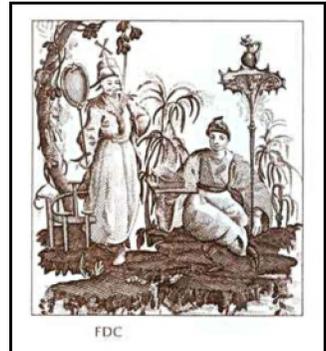


Figure 8



Figure 9

5. On June 22, 2022 the Ministry issued a 2.10 € stamp to celebrate the **150th Anniversary of the Railway Workshops at Zvolen** [Pofis 768]. The stamp shows a diesel-electric locomotive type 757 (Fig. 9) and was designed by Jozef Česla, produced in a miniature sheet of eight with a central coupon showing a side-view of the locomotive. In 1872 the railroad from Pest – Vrútky was completed by the Hungarian State Railroad (MÁV) and this led to the establishment of a repair facility at Zvolen for the servicing and repair of rolling-stock. After Czechoslovakia's independence in 1918 the part of this railroad that remained in the new country eventually became part of Czechoslovak State Railways (ČSD). Then in 1993 it became part of Railways of the Slovak Republic (ŽSR) for a short period before becoming part of the joint-stock company ŽOS Zvolen which remains the owner today. During its 150-year history it has constantly modernized the servicing capabilities available for the railroad and is an important source of employment for the Zvolen area. The FDC cachet shows an angled view of a locomotive engine (Fig. 10) and the cancellation is the logo of the ŽOS company.

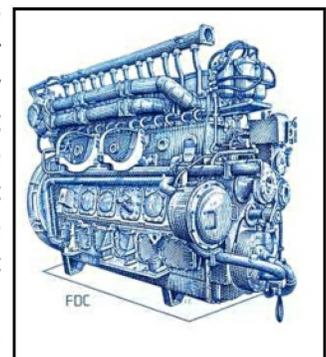


Figure 10

6. On July 1, 2022 the Ministry issued a miniature sheet to commemorate the **200th Birth Anniversaries of Important Figures of the Štúr Generation** [Pofis 769]. The 4.00 € stamp and miniature sheet was designed and engraved by Rudolf Cigánik and produced by recess printing from a flat plate combined with offset. The stamp depicts Devín Castle above the banks of the River Danube within a miniature sheet which shows the five celebrated Slovaks celebrated in this stamp issue (Fig. 11). Devín Castle is thought of as the birthplace of Slovak National

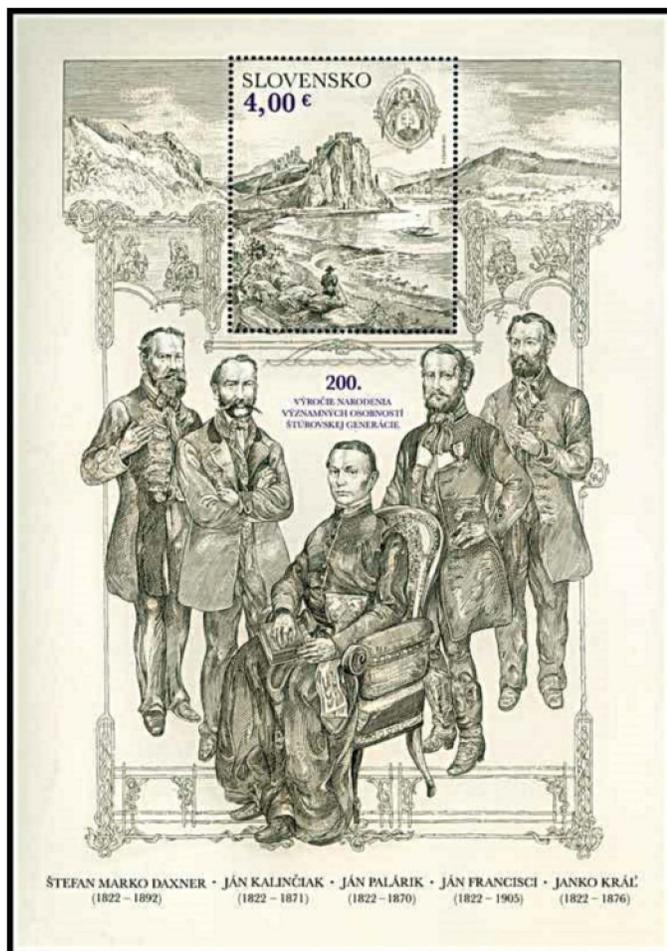


Figure 11



Figure 13

7. On July 23, 2022 the Ministry issued a 0.75 € stamp to celebrate **Sport: European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF 2022)** [Pofis 770]. The stamp, designed by Juliana Matiová, shows a competitor in the high-jump (Fig. 13) and was issued in sheets of 50. The XVI Summer edition of these games will take place in Banská Bystrica from July 24-30, mainly in the Štiavničky Stadium. Events will also be held in Zvolen, Detva, Slovenská Ľupča, and Badín. Post-poned for a year so as not to clash with the delayed Tokyo Olympics,

it will greet more than 3000 sportspeople from 48 different countries. All competitors are aged from 14-18 and they will compete in 11 different sporting disciplines. The FDC cachet shows a high jumper taking off (Fig. 14) and the cancellation is an athletic shoe.

Postal Stationery

8. On April 22, 2022 the Ministry issued a prepaid postal card with additional printing to commemorate the **200th Anniversary of the Birth of Ján Palárik** [Pofis 313 CDC 267/22]. The imprinted stamp, with a value of T2 50g is for the 10th anniversary of Slovak membership in the EU. The additional print, designed by Adrian Ferda, depicts a portrait of the Catholic priest, writer, playwright and advocate of the revival of Slovak language and culture during the 19th century (Fig. 15).

Statehood and continues to be considered as a sanctuary of Slovak life and culture. From 1815 to 1825 a large number of individuals were born, who during the middle of the 19th century, under the leadership of Ľudovít Štúr, gave life to the renaissance of Slovak national identity. From left to right on the miniature sheet they are **Štefan Marko Daxner**, lawyer and chief author of the Memorandum of the Slovak Nation in 1861 – **Ján Kalinčiak**, writer famous for his humorous story *Reštaurácia* (Restoration) – **Ján Palárik**, a priest who strove to find a way of peaceful coexistence with the Hungarian rulers – **Ján Francisci-Rimavský**, a soldier who played a leading role in battles during the revolution of 1849-1849 – **Janko Kráľ**, poet, rebel and revolutionary. The FDC cachet depicts an eagle flying over Slovakia's national peak, Mount Kriváň (Fig. 12) and the cancellation is a leaf and blossom from a lime tree. A commemorative sheet and black proof were issued the same day.



Figure 12

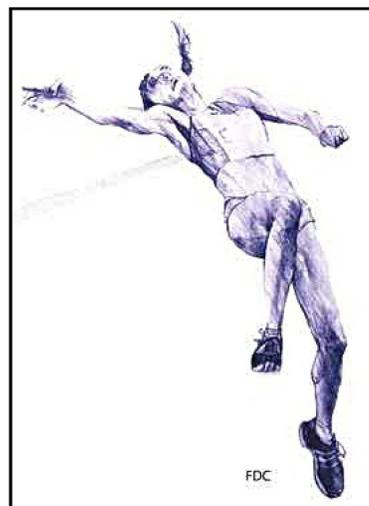


Figure 14



Figure 15

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9. On July 1, 2022 the Ministry issued a prepaid envelope without additional imprint showing artifacts from the **Roman Fort at Gerulata** [Pofis COB 123/22]. The 0.35 € and 0.40 € stamps show artifacts from the site (Fig. 16) which are displayed at the Ancient Gerulata Museum in Rusovce, a suburb of Bratislava.



Figure 16

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7. A new online sales circuit is now available. Members can sell surplus philatelic material, as well as inquiring as to whether anything they need is available from other members. Members wishing to use this service should contact our circuit manager Marisa Galitz at mmgalitz@gmail.com.

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