



# CZECHOUT

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Sokol Allegory Post Card, c. 1914

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR 1953-2013

# CZECHOUT

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## Membership Benefits

<b>Meetings</b>	Four meetings each year in London, one in Yorkshire, and one elsewhere.
<b>Publications</b>	Members receive the quarterly journal <i>Czechout</i> which includes articles of interest on Czech and Slovak philately and helps members to keep in touch with Society affairs. The Society publishes <i>Monographs</i> on wide-ranging topics containing original research.
<b>Library</b>	The Society maintains a comprehensive library of books, journals, and reference items available to UK members only. Postage both ways paid by the borrower.
<b>Auctions</b>	Regular auctions with a varied range of reasonably priced items. Prospective vendors should contact the Auction Secretary.
<b>New Issues Service</b>	Contact the Librarian.
<b>Circulating Packets</b>	Stamp and postal history packets available to members in the UK only. Apply to the Packet Secretary.
<b>Data Protection Act</b>	Members are advised that their details are stored electronically for use on Society business only, e.g., for address label printing.

## Payments

Sterling cheques drawn on a UK bank payable to the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (CPSGB); current bank notes in pounds sterling, US dollars, or Euros. Payments may also be made by US dollar cheques or paid to a Euro bank account, by credit card or PayPal (a small surcharge applies). Please contact the Treasurer for details.

**Opinions expressed in articles are the sole responsibility of the author(s)  
and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society.**

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## Editorial

The Society has a new resource for members at [www.czechout.org](http://www.czechout.org): a complete index to every issue of *Czechout* and *The Bulletin* from 1975 through 2012. As a bonus, the index will remain current, indexing each issue of *Czechout* as it is published. The index is interactive in that every citation is linked to a copy of the article. Simply click on the blue citation in the index and a window will open to the page in *Czechout* where the article may be found and read.

Articles are indexed by author and subject. Articles about a specific stamp cite its Stanley Gibbons and POFIS numbers. In addition, should a particular issue of *The Bulletin* or *Czechout* be of interest, every issue is also available in its entirety.

That is not quite true. Every issue and article published before 2011 is available. Issues from 2011 forward cannot be accessed from the website, but the Society will shortly publish a DVD disc containing the entire run of *Czechout* along with the index. Details about obtaining a copy of the disc will be announced in the September *Czechout*. While the issues of *Czechout* on the index website cannot be printed, the issues on the disc – or any article from them – may be printed.

## News &amp; Notices

## Czech Field Post in 1938

I am considering a Monograph on the field post system that was operational between October and December 1938. I have looked at various catalogues, articles in *Czechout* and websites on the Internet. Two areas seem appropriate for further investigation: some of the dates of activity are unclear and there are references to errors and mistakes in the cancels. My own collection has several errors, so I would like to find out whether these are one-offs or are consistent over a period of time.

I would like to invite members to help me with this investigation. The more cards that are included, the better the final conclusions. I am happy to include your name, or if you prefer keep you anonymous. I am also open to exploring other aspects of this area if suitable material is made available.

I am thinking of a questionnaire to gather data for each of the locations. I will include a paper copy in the next *Czechout* and arrange for an electronic copy to be placed on the website. If anyone has any thoughts or comments, please contact me by mail at PO Box 11825, Solihull, B93 9ZQ United Kingdom or [rozpocet@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rozpocet@yahoo.co.uk).

Peter Williams

### **Congratulations**

We are all delighted that in our Jubilee year our Chairman, Mrs Yvonne Wheatley, has been honoured for her philatelic work both in national and international circles. This award for 2013 will take place at the Annual Congress to be held this year at Gloucester in late June.

The Congress Medal was inaugurated in 1959 at the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held at Torquay. This prestigious medal, together with a lapel pin, is presented to just one person each year at the annual Association of British Philatelic Societies Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in recognition of dedication and voluntary service to British philately at National level.

Amongst some of the recipients, now deceased, was Mrs Kay Goodman, Life President, Chairman, and Life member of this society [CPSGB], a keen worker with youth philately, and who has a lecture at Congress named after her, who won the Congress Medal in 1976. So the Society can be proud that another of its members has been awarded this prestigious medal and it is hoped that those attending the Czech weekend in Worthing may have the opportunity to see this medal and hear about the Award and Congress from our Guest speaker Mrs Susan Oliver who is the present Chairman/Secretary of the ABPS Awards Committee.

### **From Yvonne Wheatley**

I wish to thank the Society, and Yvonne Gren and Colin Spong in particular, for putting my name forward for the Congress Medal. I am extremely honoured to receive it this year, particularly as I am following two other members of our Society, Kay Goodman who received it in 1976 and Pat Rothnie in 1996.

### **Cooperation Agreement with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately**

Check out our sister organization, the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, at their website: [www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org) and through their Secretary, Tom Cossaboom at [KLFCK@aol.com](mailto:KLFCK@aol.com). Their publication the *Specialist* and our *Czechout* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your SCP subscription to our CPSGB Treasurer without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the US. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies!

### **Airmail Rates 1930-1939**

Barry Horne has an eight page listing of the Airmail rates for 1930-1939 he is willing to share. Printed copies are available at cost of £1 [UK] to cover postage and paper. For a copy, send an emailed request to [benroh@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:benroh@tiscali.co.uk).

### **Report of the meeting held on Saturday, 9 March 2013 at the Czech and Slovak National Club, London NW6 at 2.30 p.m.**

Present: Mrs Yvonne Wheatley (in the Chair) and 14 members. Apologies had been received from six members. Yvonne Wheatley welcomed those present extending a special welcome to Bob Allard who had recovered from a period of ill-health.

Yvonne Gren gave details of three new members:

Haris Chrysostomou from Athens, Greece

David Luckhurst from Deal, Kent

Lawrence Pacl from Hermitage, Tennessee, whose applications were readily endorsed and accepted, followed by details of the next residential weekend being arranged for 7-9 June 2013 at Worthing. She urged those who were still thinking of booking to do so soon.

The Chairman reported that the new issue of *Czechout* was ready for distribution and urged those present to collect their copies. In future Yvonne explained that she would continue to distribute new issues by hand at meetings to reduce postage costs. The new index was now on its website and copies on DVD discs would soon be available.

**Bob Bradford** showed his display of the Hradčany issue starting with the first two sheets he mounted proving just how much dedication he has given to the subject since his early collecting days. It started with proofs and colour trials, details of the printing method, and showed how the sheets were



printed to produce gutter pairs. Each value was then shown separately and included perforation varieties, black prints, printing flaws, specimen overprints, and printers waste.

The covers shown were notable in that they included examples of each value from 3h to 100h as single stamps paying an appropriate rate – postage or postage and registration, etc.

In his vote of thanks, Reg Hounsell remarked that the Hradčany issue was always a popular subject and those present had been shown a variety of printing aspects, printers' waste, perforation varieties, dies, proofs, gutter pairs, bisects, and colour varieties.

The Chairman endorsed and thanked Reg for his kind remarks and Bob's display was warmly appreciated by those present. Yvonne reminded members of the next meeting in June and closed the meeting at about 3.45 p.m.

### **Request from The Czech Republic**

I am the President of the Geographical Club headquartered in the Czech Republic, a non-profit institution whose goal is to study geography and history. Our Club has collections of postage stamps and postcards to document the history of the world. We like to give teenagers a starting envelope with a few stamps in order to motivate their interest in stamp collecting. We would be very grateful for any donation of spare stamps that you or other members of your stamp club could provide and we could then continue in our efforts. Mailing address of the club: GC, Dr. Jiří Očenášek, Dukelská 2325, 470 06 Česká Lípa, Czech Republic. (geographicalclub@seznam.cz). With best regards, Dr. Jiří Očenášek

*(Members are advised that the Society cannot enter into any correspondence nor take responsibility for any transactions entered into.)*

### **Otto's War: A Tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Otto Hornung RDP FRPSL 10 September 1920 - 8 January 2013 - Richard Beith and Colin Spong -**

One of my happiest memories of my good friend Otto Hornung in action took place at the Eighty-eighth Philatelic Congress of Great Britain at Renfrew, on 8 July 2006. At the Congress Banquet Otto was scheduled to propose the toast to the new RDPs. Correctly introduced with his rank as a Lieutenant Colonel (retired) he first made a moving tribute to the warm hospitality of the local inhabitants when he was based in the Scottish Borders as a member of the Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade from June to August 1944. He then sang *I belong to Glasgow* and sat down to thunderous applause. I hope that the four new RDPs enjoyed the performance.



Otto was born in Moravská Ostrava in the north of Moravia. When Hitler's troops invaded the remains of western Czechoslovakia in mid-March 1939, eighteen-year-old Otto's first thought was to leave the new Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia to join any future fight against the invaders. His parents thought he was too young, but eventually his mother (a feisty lady by all accounts) went to the local Gestapo office in Ostrava with Otto's passport to get an exit visa. The passport was confiscated.

Otto's widowed aunt had a property which was rented to a friendly postman who was in charge of the dispatch of mails to still neutral Poland. Otto was given a postman's jacket and on the night of 14 May 1939, by slipping past the armed German sentry, Otto was able to enter a wagon and two minutes later the train left for Bohumín, a former Moravian town which had been annexed by the Poles in 1938 as part of the Těšín region. Otto was introduced to the Polish postal workers as the Moravian postman's apprentice. Once the door of the station building at Bohumín was unlocked, Otto could step into the square – a free man. The local police sent him on to Kraków where a Czechoslovak consulate remained in operation. He was given temporary papers, a foolscap sheet with photograph which had to be renewed each week. He also visited the British consulate asking if he could join the

Royal Navy. “No” said the Consul, “we don’t have a Foreign Legion in Britain”. Otto noted that most teenagers in Ostrava learnt French as an extra language, but he had learnt English from an English-speaking businessman who had lived in England for some time with the aid of two books: *Three Men in a Boat* and *King Solomon’s Mines*.

In August 1939 the Polish government agreed to the formation of a Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and Otto eventually found a place in that force. Such was the pace of the Polish collapse in September 1939 that the Legion was never properly equipped. The Soviet Army invaded Poland from the east on 17 September, by which time the Czechoslovak Legion was trying to reach friendly Romania. The march by Otto’s group was halted by the Red Army the next day and Otto and his colleagues were disarmed and marched east to internment in the Soviet Union. On 17 October 1939 Otto’s father, Dr Ernest Hornung, was deported from Moravská Ostrava by the Germans to occupied Poland. He managed to reach Lwów (Lemberg, Lviv) in Russian-occupied Poland from where he was able to correspond with Otto. His father’s letters were written in German which was an embarrassment to Otto when his comrades were around. All news from his father ceased in June 1941 after the German attack on the USSR. Dr Hornung became a victim of the Holocaust. Otto’s mother and sister were luckier: they moved to Hungary and at the end of the war were living in Budapest, protected by documentation provided by the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg.

Otto commented that life as an internee of the Soviets was “not bad by Soviet standards”. Some of his Czechoslovak colleagues had been released by the Soviets prior to the fall of France. Otto was not released from his quarters in Suzdal, east-north-east of Moscow, until March 1941. The group of sixty Czechoslovaks travelled by train to Moscow and on to Odessa where there was even time to visit the opera. They crossed to Istanbul by sea on the *Svanetia*, calling at Varna on the way. Otto noted that “the crew gave us a farewell party; they wanted us to leave with good impressions of the Soviet Union”. They then travelled by train across Turkey to the port of Mersin where another ship took them to Haifa. So another sixty allied troops had reached British-mandated Palestine from the USSR, in spite of the continuing existence of the Hitler–Stalin pact.

They, and Otto, were now members of the Eleventh Czechoslovak Infantry Battalion - East. On 22 October 1941 the battalion was sent to help in the defence of the isolated Tobruk garrison. Later they became a Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment and then, in July 1943, all 1,322 Czechoslovak soldiers in the Middle East were sent to the United Kingdom travelling on the *Mauretania*, arriving at Liverpool on 26 August 1943. Once in the UK they were amalgamated with the somewhat under strength Czechoslovak Brigade which had been formed here after the fall of France. From 1 September 1943 the combined unit was reborn as the Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade and Otto spent his time in Northamptonshire in the Desborough area up to May 1944 when they moved to the Scottish Borders for final training.

At the end of August 1944 the Brigade returned to France as a fighting unit. From early October to May 1945, the Brigade was the lead unit engaged in bottling up the large German garrison in Dunkirk which had been bypassed in the allied race to Antwerp. Otto was wounded during this period. The main Brigade did not return to their liberated homeland until mid-May 1945 when western Bohemia was controlled by the US Third Army. A photograph exists of Lieutenant Hornung as a Liaison Officer to the US Army participating in a US National Day Parade on 4 July 1945 somewhere in Bohemia. His war was coming to an end. Of course, his final high rank was a product of the post-Velvet Revolution period, when those who had fought in the west were honoured in the name of President Havel.

In 1946 Otto left the Army and finally found a job with a press agency; after a spell as correspondent in Romania he was recalled to Prague and sacked because he had served under British command. He then found a job with a publishing house and whilst attending Montreal EXPO he was reported for associating with westerners. Whilst in Palestine he had married Barbara and they had two sons born in Prague, so in 1967, seeing how the situation was deteriorating in Czechoslovakia, he sent one son to England and with the rest of the family managed to get to Paris. On arrival in England he told the boys they would not be returning to Prague. In London he was told by his friend Pat Hurst, who he had met in Prague, that there was a vacancy for a secretary to the Philatelic Traders Society, and was taken on as an assistant to the Chairman, Ian Glassborough, pending his appointment as secretary of PTS, and the following year (1968) as secretary of STAMPEX.

Otto's language and journalistic skills, philatelic knowledge, diplomacy, and affability to represent the PTS both in the UK and abroad until his retirement in December 1988 was his great achievement. Barbara died in February 1984. Subsequently he and Chiye (popularly known as Chichi) met and married; after their marriage Chichi accompanied him on almost all his travels.

I first met Otto whilst he was at the PTS during the 1980 London Exhibition where a Committee meeting was being held in his office; they were looking for a Guest speaker, and I suggested the Lord Mayor of London, who I knew, whilst the rest of the committee looked on in disbelief. Otto just said "the phone is over there". Unfortunately he was unable to attend due to an overseas visit, but that occasion began a friendship with Otto.

When I came across an article on *Czechoslovaks in the Middle East* by Dr Vratislav Palkoska whilst attending PRAGA 1998, I mentioned this to Otto, suggesting we obtain permission to publish. Otto replied he was a personal friend, and immediately contacted him, translated the text and offered to write a section covering the Polish and Russian period in which he was personally involved.

After we had completed the draft which we sent to Dr Palkoska, I persuaded Otto to let me include as a memorial a photograph of his father. Unfortunately Dr Palkoska died whilst the monograph was being published, so we also included a memorial to him as co-author. I greatly enjoyed working with Otto and we had several convivial lunches together from then on at the Czech Club.

Otto founded the Association Internationale des Journalistes Philatéliques [AIJP] in 1962 and was its former President. He specialised in the stamps and postal history of Turkey, winning many international awards; latterly he collected Carpatho-Ukraine. He was a member of the following societies: Académie Européenne de Philatélie, Club de Monte-Carlo, Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Perfin Society of GB, The Oriental Philatelic Association of London, Royal Philatelic Society London, and in 1993 he became a signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. He was also a Board member of the FIP Commission for Philatelic Literature.

Otto died in hospital on 8 January and is buried at the Jewish Commentary in Edgware. He will be much missed in many circles but I shall particularly treasure his friendship and the occasional phone calls and his personally signed copy of *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Stamp Collecting*.

### **Cyril Wackett 19 April 1926 - 1 January 2013**

**- Yvonne Gren -**

Cyril was born at Nunhead, London SE. After a period of evacuation during World War II and when he became old enough, he enlisted in the Merchant Navy and served on the North Atlantic convoys. At the end of the war he helped repatriate prisoners from Singapore. Apart from being a keen philatelist, he was an accomplished pianist and an ardent opera lover.



Cyril joined the Society on 16 March 1967 and very soon was elected to serve on the Committee, firstly as P.R.O. in 1970, Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary from 1972 to 1976, when he also conducted the Society Auctions, and Vice-Chairman from 1974 to 1982. He served as Editor of Czechout from 1975 to 1978 during which time he was instrumental in the translation of the preface of the newly published *Monografie No. 13 (Bulletin No. 9)*, a document which still serves as a useful reference paper.

Cyril was granted Honorary Life Membership in 1985. Before retirement, he became English Manager of the London Branch of Zivnostenská banka in the City of London, but because he was not comfortable attending meetings at the Czech Club, unfortunately we saw little of him although his interest in the Society survived until the end. He specialised in the stamps and postal history of the 1945 Liberation Overprints and he compiled a useful reference book on the subject.

I treasure the memories of Cyril's warm hospitality, the happy meetings held at his home in Bishops Stortford and the interesting displays he gave on those occasions.

Cyril passed away in hospital on 1 January 2013 after a period of declining health. His name will remain within the Society archives, but those of us who remember him as a friend will be thankful for the privilege of having known him. The Society offers its deepest sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.

## Letters and Email

From **Bob Hill:**

On the advice of the Chair, Yvonne Wheatley, I keyed [www.czechout.org](http://www.czechout.org) into my computer and found the tab *Articles Indexed*. This led me into the wonderful world of the CPSGB interactive index. I am a lover of indexes and, for example, can still spend hours pouring over the archived copies of *The London Philatelist* going back over a hundred years. So I was more than pleased to see this type of facility available to view past editions of *Czechout*.

It is easy to use, the key articles are highlighted with lesser articles supporting them and I am sure this will be a very great benefit to members as well as non-members. I'm not going to do a beauty contest between the Royal and CPSGB indexes as the scope covered is immensely different; suffice it to say that had I produced the one for the CPSGB I would be tremendously proud of my work. In having done all the spade work in capturing the past issues, it should not be a massive job to annually keep the good work up.

Another benefit is that all the new issues are shown with information that beats most catalogues, although my heart was touched when I tried the first link and saw a picture of the late Brian Parker staring back at me. The only weakness I found was that it was addictive and my first visit lasted far longer than it should. I sent the link to a non-English speaking friend in Hradec Králové who emailed back "This I like". Well done. The production team deserve a round of applause.

From **Phil Rhoades:**

Congratulations on your first issue of *Czechout*. Bravo!!! I'm always somewhat leery when it's announced that a "new" journal format is coming. It seems like there is often more emphasis on appearance than on content. For society journals, the three most important things are "content, content, and content" (with apologies to my realtor friends). Sometimes, this gets lost in the editorial revamping of a journal. *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, journal of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, is a case in point. While certainly more impressive visually, the content nowhere approaches the previous journal editor's content. I'd much rather have a society journal with a more pedestrian appearance but solid content than the opposite. This is not a problem with the new *Czechout*. Well done.

One correction: On page 6, there's a short note about the seventieth anniversaries of Lidice and Ležáky being celebrated this year. This is incorrect; last year (2012) was the seventieth anniversary.

*I stand corrected. I began work on the March issue in 2012 and somehow forgot that a new year would have begun when that issue was actually published - Editor.*

From **Ken Dyke:**

Really like the look of the new *Czechout*. I think the use of colour is so important that any changes you need to make to incorporate it are worthwhile.

From **Nick Coverdale:**

I'm the editor of *Jugopošta*, the journal of the Yugoslavia Study Group. I'm also a member of CPSGB. I've just received the latest edition of *Czechout*, which is very impressive. It looks quite similar to *Jugopošta* in that it is now in A4 format, bound, in colour, and in Times New Roman typeface and also in 32 pages, which is our standard. Is there any possibility of keeping it like this? From the technical point of view, I am interested in how you publish it. I put the document together in Word which is tedious but better publishing software seems to be too expensive.

*Czechout is produced using two British desktop publishing applications, PagePlus and PhotoPlus distributed by Serif. They are easy to use and quite reasonably priced. See [www.serif.com](http://www.serif.com) for details.*

From **Barry Horne:**

May I say I do like the new *Czechout*; may I also add one or two comments, helpful I hope! I feel the new style cover should not be included in the pagination, otherwise it has to be bound in and the paper is heavier. Contents could also go on the cover, giving more room in the body of the magazine. Glad



to see name and date included on each page; wonder whether volume number and/or whole number might be added? It always helps when tracking down elusive items in the future.

Times New Roman is an abomination and I will not use it in work or at home. I use Univers – a sans serif type but slightly heavier than Arial – but it is not available everywhere, so Arial is then a fallback choice here.

As an example, Arial ten-point lowercase is the same size as Times New Roman twelve-point lowercase and takes up less room; the Times New Roman uppercase letters are much higher/larger than in some other typefaces. When photocopying, the upright lines in Times New Roman are too thin and often fail to copy properly. I suppose, at the end of the day, it is all down to taste and personal choice!

*We appreciate the close reading Barry gave the March Czechout and would like to explain some of our choices – and of course the technical makeup of the journal does boil down to choices. The pagination is meant to support the new Interactive Index. Its software must find articles within the journal on demand and uses an algorithm to do so; the new numbering means no special algorithm need be written for each issue – as had to be done for most of the first 149 issues.*

*As for the font, we printed a number of experimental issues using several typefaces and sizes; in the end we believed twelve-point Times New Roman presented the more readable page. As Barry says, though, this may simply be a matter of taste.*

*All members should feel free – indeed obligated – to suggest improvements. Put Letter to the Editor as the subject and send your emails to [czechout@knihtisk.org](mailto:czechout@knihtisk.org) or write to the address on the inside of the front cover.*

**From Richard Beith:**

Further to the continuing correspondence regarding the identity of mail planes shown on stamps of



The Heinkel He 116V1 D-AJIE Schlesien, (Deutsche Lufthansa.)

the Slovak State, I attach a scan of a Deutsche Lufthansa publicity photo of the He D-AJIE *Schlesien* which could be the very photo on the stamp designer's desk!

The He 116 appeared in the summer of 1937 as a long-distance mail plane. It was intended for DLH's South Atlantic Service and for a projected route to the Far East. The prototype, shown in the photo, did not go into regular service. Only two more were built for the

German service, D-ATIO *Hamburg* and D-ARFD *Rostock*. It is possible that two more were built for Manchuria Airtransport with Japanese registrations, as J-BAKD and J-EAKF. Source: John Stroud, *European Transport Aircraft since 1910* (London, Putnam, 1966).

## Abstracts of Publications

### - Colin W Spong-

We have received the following journals, which will be available from the Society Library. Items of interest to members are:

***The British Postal Museum & Archive Newsletter*** Winter 2013.

Put your stamp on the new museum exhibition space-update [mobile PO] (Richmond); Our collections out and about – loans to museums (Harper); Touring Exhibitions 2013 (Gardner); Remembering the Post Office Rifles [Regiment] (Harper); Mail Rail plans: opening up London's

best kept secret [former PO underground railway] (Grose); The BPMA Paintings Collection (Bean); “Well adapted for the purpose” One-hundred-sixtieth anniversary of the first roadside letter box” in the UK (Stray); Museum Store audit: objects, boxes and pink tape (Jenkins); The ringing red icon – A whistle-stop look at telephone boxes (Gardner); A cup of tea and its consequences [review of Chris West’s new book *First class: A History of Britain in 36 Postage Stamps* available from BPMA shop at £16.99]; Eightieth Anniversary of the GPO Film Unit (Anthony).

The December 2012 issue of ***Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei***, Vol. 43 Whole No. 174. *Member Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us.*

‘Odesláno s AV 2/ Par AV 2’ What does this mean? (Müller); Joint issues with other Postal Authorities from the Slovak Post Office. [Part 2] (Müller); Special A Post labels from the Czech Post Office (Müller); Changes in the Status of certain post offices of the Czech Post Office 2011 (Müller); Barcodes-Special Registration labels from the Czech Post Office (Müller); Special Cancellations from the Czech Post Office [Jan-Sept 2012] (Kokta); Updates to the Library Catalogue 2012 (-).

The Fall 2011, Winter 2012 & Winter 2013 issue of ***The Czechoslovak Specialist***, Vols. 73, 74, 75. Nos. 4 & 1. Whole Nos. 626-7 & 631.

New Printing Plate Combinations Found (Bisschops, & Olšina); The 25h Chainbreaker, Part II – The Visual Indices (Wilson).

The Agony of Czechoslovakia ‘38/68’: Chapter 9 The Sokol Rally - June-July 1938 (Weisskopf); Slovak Stamps? (Cossaboom & Horvath); The 25h Chainbreaker Part III – Individual Position Descriptions, (Wilson).

Some Forgotten Retouches (Folprecht); Our “Mother of Sorrows” Patroness of Slovakia (Sr Bresnock, SS.C.M.); The Hidden Meaning of Expert Marks (Wilson); Short Story of a Czech WWI Soldier (Kunc); Fund with Czechoslovakia Perfins (Brandt).

Nos. 1-4 2013 of ***Filatelie***. Vol. 63. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

Post Office Vrchlabi 3 and other local posts (Berr); Chapters from Jiří Škalouda’s exhibit [Part 1] (Maleček); Postal Services on territory of “Deutschböhmen” (Kunc); Pofis Catalogue addendum 2012. Czechoslovak Airmail stamps 1920 – problems with expertising of covers (Tekel’); Chapters from Jiří Škalouda’s exhibit [Part 2] (Maleček); Changes in branch post offices of Czech Post during the year 2011 (Kratochvíl); Mobile Post Offices [Autopošty] 1937-1944 [Part 1] (Horák & Bulant). Chapters from Jiří Škalouda’s exhibit [Part 3] (Maleček); Contract partners of Czech Post [Part 1] (Bejestaa & Gebauer); Inland C.O.D. Letters during six periods of rates of ČSR 1 (Švejnar). Chapters from Jiří Škalouda’s exhibit [Part 4] (Maleček); Monarchist tradition still lives on our stamps (Beneš); Contract partners of Czech Post [Part 2] (Bejestaa & Gebauer); Mobile Post Offices [Autopošty] 1937-1944 [Part 2] (Horák & Bulant).

The March 2013 issue of ***NIEUWS*** No. 20.

Plating Hradčany 4 [20h] Pofis 8 – Michel 4 & Pofis 9 – Michel 27 (Jonkergouw); New identifications in Hradčany 25h Type V (Trip); Hungarian names in Slovak cancels (Sevenhuijsen); A Sokol festival in Brno in 1914 (van Dooremalen).

The March 2013 issue of ***Stamps of Hungary*** No. 192.

The Romantic Life of Count Richard Guyan-Debaufre in Connection with a Pre-Stamp Letter (Nagy); Zombie Stamps (Kohalmi); Austria-Hungary -3,6,12,24 ? (Brumby); Hungary’s Famous men, Part 6: Bolyai Farkas (Benford); The Military Aircraft Exhibition, Budapest, 1917 (Morrell).

#### **Additions to the CPSGB Library**

*Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939 – 1940, A Historical and Philatelic Study.* By Richard Beith. Published by CPSGB (2013) Monograph No 26.



## An Extraordinary Issue: The Mucha Newspaper Stamps - Mark Wilson -

Many collectors consider the 1919 newspaper issue (SG N24-31; *POFIS* NV1-8) simply another set of eight stamps to mount in one's album and forget. Very few who have seen these colourful falcon-in-flight stamps realize they are perhaps the first republic's most remarkable issue.

On 18 December 1918 the Czechoslovak postal authorities released the republic's first and most famous issue – the Hradčany. Unnoticed by many the first two newspaper stamps – the 2h green and the 10h lilac – appeared on the same day. The 10h stamp uniquely went on to become the Czechoslovak stamp with the longest period of continuous use. Despite the release in 1937 of a newspaper stamp replacement issue, the 1919 10h stamp remained valid until the occupation dissolved the Czechoslovak post – this 10h saw more than twenty years of service.

The circumstances surrounding the first newspaper issue resemble those of the Hradčany in many ways. Alfons Mucha designed both, the Czech Graphics Union used typography to produce both, both appeared for the first time on 18 December 1918, and both issues underwent immediate and inexplicable design alterations.



Figure 1: First Release (Draft A).



Figure 2: Draft A Details.

The first two stamps released employed Mucha's original design – designated Draft A in Czech philatelic literature. A white space enveloping the falcon's head and a short horizontal background line above the right leaf's trefoil stem characterize Draft A (Figure 2).

Although the original printing plates had tally numbers below the bottom row of stamps, the printers took the unusual step of sawing them off before printing the stamps (Figure 3, left). The initial absence of tally numbers and their subsequent mysterious return (Figure 3, right) constitute yet another of these stamps' remarkable features.



Figure 3: Tally Numbers Removed and Returned.

As with the Hradčany's initial release, the post office sold vertical gutter pairs of the two stamps to the general public at the philatelic window of the main post office in Prague (*Figure 4*). The gutter on the 2h pair may be one of three widths: 27-28 mm, 33 mm, or the very rare 19 mm version. The 10h appears in two sizes: 30-33 mm and 19 mm. In contrast with the fairly common 2h gutter, the 10h is far scarcer. Two configurations of horizontal gutters, all quite scarce, also exist. The first features a 2h newspaper stamp at one end and a 10h newspaper stamp at the other. The second bears a 2h newspaper stamp at one end and a 3h Hradčany at the other.



*Figure 4: Vertical Gutters.*



*Figure 6: Draft B Details.*



*Figure 10:  
Draft C Detail.*

The next three denominations appeared in 1919 – in June the 6h, in July the 20h, and in August the 30h (*Figure 5*) – and were a modified version of the original design called Draft B. In these, the printers closed the gap in the background line just above the falcon's head and removed a short horizontal line above the right leaf's trefoil stem (*Figure 6*).



*Figure 5: Second Release (Draft B).*

The printers also inserted a few tiny differences into each denomination's drawing. In order to understand why those tiny differences later assumed significant importance, a refresher on how the printers produced the plates for the newspaper stamps is in order.

The set-up men first created 100 copies of an auxiliary print – similar to a black print – twice the size of a released stamp. These prints were then pasted to a card stock board in a 10 by 10 array. The printers next took a photograph with a reduction lens camera so that the image produced would be of the proper size, and then electrochemically transferred the negative image to a metal plate. Once etched, either it or galvanized copies became the printing plates.

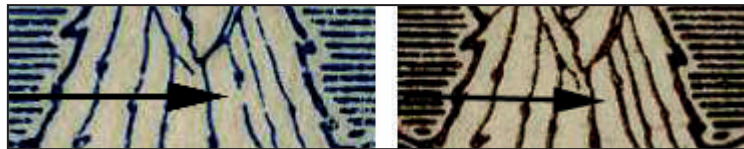


However, the set-up men mistakenly inserted two 20h auxiliary prints into the first two positions of the 30h's top row on the paste-up. They discovered their error before making the negative, but instead of removing the two 20h prints and replacing them with the appropriate 30h versions, they simply made labels bearing the digits '30' and pasted them over the incorrect 20h denomination numerals. They then continued with the normal procedure described above for producing typographic plates.

Had the Draft B drawing been identical for all three denominations, the story would have ended then and there. However, subtle differences existed between the 20h and 30h master printing blocks used to produce the double-sized auxiliary prints. For one thing, on the 30h master, the printers elected to complete the top of the upper loop of the Š in POŠTA (*Figure 7, right*), something they did not do for the 20h print (*Figure 7, left*). A second conspicuous difference occurred in the outline of the falcon's tail feathers: there is a gap in the 20h that does not appear in the 30h (*Figure 8*).



*Figure 7: Open and Closed Š.*



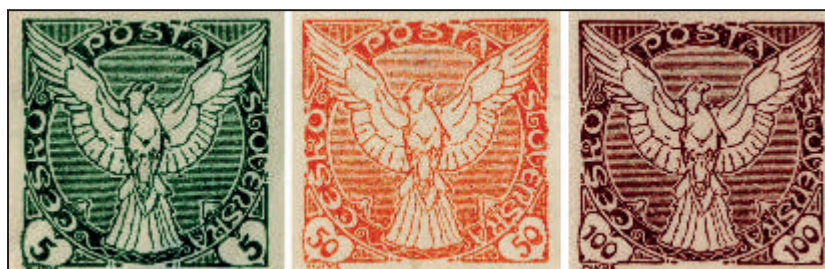
*Figure 8: Tail Feather Gap in the 20h.  
No Gap in the 30h.*

Those two differences (there are also some other minor differences) sufficed to make the first two stamps in the top row of every 30h pane – save for one very important exception – stand out enough to earn the honour of being categorized as a different type from the normal 30h stamp. Thus, every pane of 30h stamps contains ninety-eight Type I stamps executed using the 30h drawing and two Type II stamps drawn as 20h stamps but with 30h denomination numerals.

The single exception mentioned above occurred in 1929 when the printers mishandled a single 30h plate and damaged the first position in the top row so badly it could not be repaired. Rather than create a replacement, the printers cut position 90 from a discarded plate that happened to be on hand and used it to replace the damaged cliché. (A specific plate flaw identifies the replacement's origin as position 90.) *POFIS* prices a horizontal pair of 30h stamps with a Type I (the repaired position) to the left of a Type II stamp at an astounding £800!

In addition to producing two types, Draft B has a second characteristic that adds to the story of the newspaper issue's uniqueness. Its 6h remains the only Czechoslovak stamp issued in that denomination.

The final set of newspaper stamps released (*Figure 9*) – the 5h in September and the 50h with the 100h in December of 1920 – were executed in yet another modification, Draft C (*Figure 10, on the previous page*). For the most part this final modification resembled Draft B save that the draftsman returned the missing short horizontal background line above the right leaf's trefoil stem, albeit with clumsy and uneven spacing.



*Figure 9: Draft C*

In this final group the 5h proved to be the most remarkable. It required the manufacture of some 320 plates during the course of its long history and holds unchallenged the record for the largest number of stamps printed: 3,606,330,000 – yes, that's more than three and a half *billion* stamps!

*Stanley Gibbons* lists only two colours for the 5h, but *POFIS*, for a very special reason, lists more. The stamps are commonly found in green and greenish slate – the colours listed by *SG* – with the second colour priced at twice the value of the first. *SG* also correctly identifies the release date for each colour.

*POFIS* lists four colours, with green being the most common, a yellow-green from 1924 at twice the green stamp's price, and a black-green from 1920 at three times the green stamp's value. However, *POFIS* warns that a similar shade of the black-green from 1936 (identifiable by the gaps in the stress bars on the edge of the plates) does not have the same value.

In addition to those three colours (or four, if the 1920 and 1936 black-green stamps are considered separately), *POFIS* indicates the 5h may appear in a much, much rarer colour, a blue-green identical to that of the 25h Dove stamp from the Allegory series. No proof of the story exists save for the colour itself, but the belief is that in 1927 a pair of the 5h newspaper plates shared the printing press with a pair of 25h Dove plates, the result being that the pressman used the same blue green ink on all four plates. *POFIS* prices these stamps at a substantial premium.

Panes of the Mucha newspaper stamps vividly demonstrate some early technical advances in typographic printing. Because the screws or nails that fastened the plates to a wooden board on the press often became loose during the printings, the left or right edges of a pane might receive a poor or doubled impression. For later printings the pressman remedied this problem by mounting stress bars alongside the plates to hold them more firmly in place – as is evidenced by the impressions the stress bars left in the selvage (*Figure 11, right*). Blank selvage demonstrates the absence of stress bars for the early printings (*Figure 11, left*).



*Figure 11: Later Printings Featured Stress Bars.*

At first solid strips of metal served as stress bars, but the printers discovered that air – under pressure from the inking cylinder – trapped by the bars sometimes warped the paper causing misprints. They solved this problem by milling out spaces opposite the ends of rows or columns so that the trapped air could escape (*Figure 11, right*). The stress bars varied in width and were often decorated with vertical or horizontal grooves. Sometimes the impressions of the stress bars contain nicks, notches, and other markings placed there by the pressmen indicating a location on the plate in need of repair. As the printers began using stress bars only after the withdrawal of the 2h and 6h stamps, stress bar impressions are found only on the issue's other denominations.

Postal requirements led to the surcharging or overprinting of several denominations of the Mucha newspaper stamps. As part of the franking needed for the Eastern Silesia plebiscite, five values were



overprinted *SO 1920* (Figure 12). Note that the overprint exists on both types of the 30h. The 2h, 6h, 10h, and 30h may also be found overprinted *VZOREC* as specimens for the Universal Postal Union.

In 1925 and again in 1926, overstocks of the two withdrawn denominations were used to fulfil the need for a supplemental supply of 5h newspaper stamps. In May of 1925 the post office released a 5h on 2h and the following year in July a 5h on 6h. The surcharge consisted of a large numeral in the centre of the vignette with two six-pointed stars with circular white centres positioned so as to obscure the original denomination numerals. The printers used a typographic filler bar to conceal the tally numbers on the 2h (Figure 13, left) but did not cover up the tally numbers during the later surcharging of the 6h (Figure 13, right).



Figure 12: Overprints for the Eastern Silesia Plebiscite.



Figure 13: Obscured and Unobscured Tally Numbers.

While no new types appeared during the surcharge process, there are three interesting flaws on the surcharge plate itself. In position 1, the left end of the numeral 5's crossbar is cut-off, the right hand star in position 47 has a very long ray while the same right hand star's ray in position 95 is shorter than normal (Figure 14).



Figure 14: Flaws on the Surcharging Plate.

In 1934, at the insistence of influential members of the business community, the post office inaugurated a new service quite similar to the newspaper service: a discounted rate for commercial printed matter. Postal authorities used the 10h, 20h, and 30h denominations overprinted *O.T.* for this

service (*Figure 15*). As with the *SO 1920* overprints, the two types of the 30h may be found with an *O.T.* overprint.

The Czech Graphics Union used an extremely odd method to produce these stamps. Instead of overprinting existing stocks with *O.T.*, they manufactured four new plates for each of the three denominations. A denomination's four plates were then placed on the printing press to produce large four-pane sheets. The printers applied the overprint to all four panes simultaneously and then cut the large sheets into individual panes. This odd practice must be counted as yet another extraordinary feature associated with the Mucha newspaper issue.

The rules for this new service were identical to those of the newspaper service save for a few minor (but for collectors, troublesome) differences:

- The stamps were not sold to the public at large and were to be applied only to specific materials.
- The discounted rate applied only to domestic destinations.
- Mailings were to be grouped by destination and could only be addressed to certain post offices.

As with the newspaper service, the consigned mail was to be cancelled at the *destination* post office. The stamps were released in September of 1934. At the end of November the restriction on sales to the public was eased somewhat. Collectors, but only at the philatelic window at the main Prague post office, were permitted to purchase no more than ten sets of the new stamps.



*Figure 15: Overprinted for Commercial Mail (Obchodní Tiskopis).*

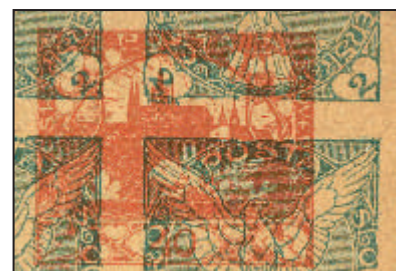
Although officially released only in imperforate form, private firms often perforated the original issue as well as the overprinted and surcharged versions. Often such stamps remained imperforate at the left or right edges of the pane (*Figure 16*). Some firms manufactured strips that resemble coil stamps (*Figure 17*). Trial prints and printers' waste (*Figure 18*) appear on the market from time to time. Such items can make interesting additions to round out a collection.



*Figure 16.*



*Figure 17.*



*Figure 18.*

So it seems these relatively uncelebrated stamps are far more interesting than they might appear at first glance. Frequent mysterious design changes, new types born of accident, a unique denomination shared by no other issue, surcharges, overprints, the statistically longest and largest printing runs (as well as the most plates for a single stamp), odd production methods, and the mother of a new postal service all characterize the Mucha newspaper stamp series. Readers may want to take another look at their copies of these extraordinary stamps, check through their duplicates for interesting variations on all of the themes described here, and if something remarkable is found, share their findings with other *Czechout* readers.

*This article in a slightly abbreviated form is being published concurrently by The Czechoslovak Specialist in the United States – Editor.*



## Sample Mail - Clyde Ziegeler -

I show here the only two sample rate covers I have of Bohemia & Moravia. I consider these as scarce as the blind post covers, although they do not get as much notice. In forty years of collecting Bohemia & Moravia, I have only seen one other cover at the 40h sample rate.

The next step was for items under 250 g, which would probably be large envelopes and small parcels, and I have not seen any of these.

### 40h Rate until 30 September 1940



Figure 1: Registered Prague to Mníchovo Hradiště 9 May 1940.  
Registration: 2K

### 80h Rate from 1 October 1940 to Occupation's End



Figure 2: Registered Brno to Bystrice nad Pernštejnem 17 August 1944. Registration 3K

Rates, from *POFIS*:

	13 3 1929	1 6 1940	1 10 1940
Up to 100 g	0.4	0.4	0.8
250 g	0.8	0.8	1.5
500 g	1.5	1.5	3
1000 g	2	2	—

While Figure 1 also appeared in Czechout 4/2005, its reappearance with the companion cover in Figure 2 marks the only time readers have seen articles in Czechout about sample mail covers. Are images of other sample mail covers available or are they, as Clyde suggests, very scarce? - Editor.

## More on *The Tatra Lake Mystery*

Norman Hudson's article in the September 2012 issue of Czechout continues to stimulate correspondence among members. The main question behind the article – *Why does a Polish lake (Morskie Oko) appear on Slovak stamps?* – received further attention from Rex Dixon and Henning Qvale. In the Letters to the Editor section Richard Beith has kindly sent along more information about the secondary question arising out of the article, the nature of the aircraft pictured.

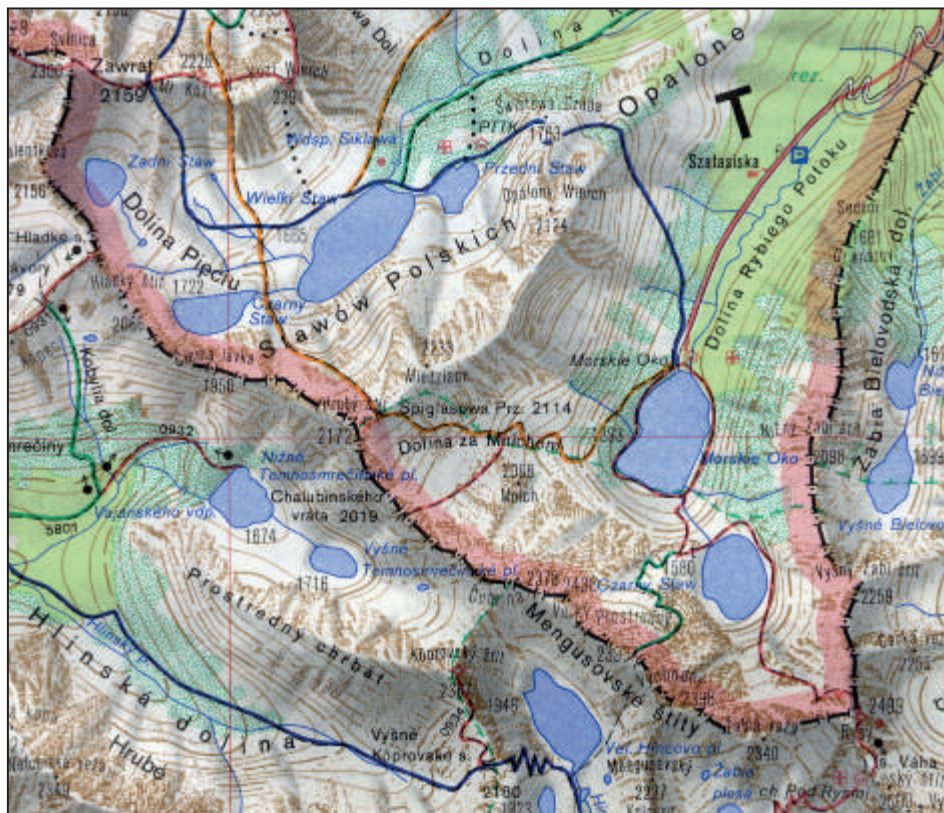
### Morskie Oko and the Polish Border

#### From correspondence between Rex Dixon, Henning Qvale, and Norman Hudson

Rex Dixon began: Reading Norman Hudson's piece on Morskie Oko last evening, I thought I had one of those *eureka* moments whereby I could offer an explanation. But unfortunately, having checked the maps again, I can't. There were border changes in the immediate region after World War I, in 1938 and again in 1939. But I am now convinced that Morskie Oko stayed in Poland throughout. So I'm afraid I cannot help Norman after all.

I've dug out the photos I took in May 1992. Although, of course, I didn't use the same viewpoint as the artist of the 4Ks stamp, I'm pretty convinced that it is indeed Morskie Oko (*Eye of the Sea*). On the other hand, I am not happy that the mountain in the background is Rysy. I think it is one of the peaks on the border ridge west of Rysy.

I've attached a 1983, 1:50000 map of the area and two photos. The map shows Morskie Oko, the



higher corrie lake Czarny Staw (*Black Lake*), and Rysy at the sharp bend in the border (this map gives its height as 2499 m rather than 2503 m). Photo A shows almost the same view as the stamp but from much lower down. Photo B is a wider panorama taken after climbing up the path leading to the ridge north (and a bit west) of Morskie Oko.

Photo B shows both lakes clearly, the upper one still under a blanket of snow in its hollow. The left-hand sides of the two lakes are almost in line, which agrees with my supposed position on the

map. From the map you can see that Rysy is to the left of this line, so it must be the higher of the two peaks to the left of the photo. (I believe the higher peak is the right-hand one of the pair, even though it looks lower from this angle.)

The large rounded peak to the right of photo B is the main one in Photo A, and also the main one on the stamp. From the map, I think it must be the 2398 m peak Vychodný.

In a follow-up to Rex's comments, Henning Qvale added: Yes, Rex. You are quite right; Rysy is not present on the stamp. It is to the left as your Photo B shows. I had to find my old map in the attic. Mine confirms the track shown on yours; we used the track on the east shore of upper lake Czarny Staw, and then right up Rysy. I have enclosed a postcard with the names of the peaks printed on it (very convenient)!



*And Norman Hudson answered:* I read your emails with great interest. I am very grateful to you for taking such an interest and sharing your thoughts. Like you, Rex, I at first thought that the solution to the *why depict a view from Morskie Oko* question was to do with border changes. But again, like you, I consulted the old maps and information I had available and found that the border in this area had been established in 1902 with Morskie Oko being in Austria and therefore within Poland after the end of World War I.

So, *why depict a view from Morskie Oko* remains a genuine mystery at the moment. But all things are a mystery until someone is able to explain them. I hope someone can as I would love to know.



Photo A.



Photo B.

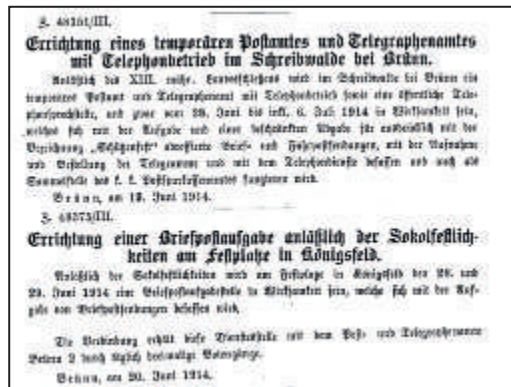
*Henning Qvale's Postcard.*

## The 1914 Sokol Festival in Brno - Hans van Dooremalen -

During the Austrian period a number of event post offices using special postmarks were established in Brünn (Brno). They included the Brünner Messe (Brno Trade Fair) in 1907, the Photographic Exhibition in 1910, and a temporary post office in Brünn Schreibwald used on various occasions for the Moravian Shooting Matches (Mährisches Landesschießen).

A special post office, unknown until discovered very recently in the pages of the Austrian *Postal Bulletin*, was established during the regional Sokol Festival in Brno held from 27 to 29 June 1914 on a site in Königsfeld, a place somewhat north of Brno. This special post office did not have its own postmark, but it is possible to identify mail sent through it by studying the text of the *Bulletin*.

If we examine the *Bulletin* carefully, it becomes clear one might search for an item sold or written on the festival grounds, such as a Sokol card, but mailed from the main post office in Brno (then Brünn 2), because the *Bulletin* clearly states that a messenger would be dispatched twice daily from the special on-site post office to the main post office. While Mr Scholz was preparing his catalogue, I contacted Brian Day for examples from his large collection of Sokol cards to document this event. He sent the following description of two cards from his collection:



- An official postcard depicting a Sokol participant carrying a banner (with the famous stuffed crocodile still on display at Brno Town Hall at his feet) and bearing a Franz Josef 5h green stamp machine-cancelled BRÜNN 2/BRNO 2 with two circles, bars, and wavy lines on 28.VI.14-10. It was addressed to Vršovice and printed by J Prochazka of Brno.
- An ordinary postcard with a Sokol participant carrying a flag at the top of a mountain but tied by a purple label advertising the Slet and used there. It bore the same BRÜNN 2/BRNO 2 machine cancel with two circles, bars, and wavy lines dated 28.VI.14 X. It was addressed to Olomouc (map ref: M-K3) and printed by F J Jedlicka, Prague.

For technical reasons it was not possible at that time for Brian to provide illustrations of these cards. Because he did not have a precise illustration, Scholz included a card sent from Königsfeld in his catalogue.



Hans-Dieter Scholz described the special post office in his catalogue but illustrated it with this Sokol card postmarked by the Königsfeld post office. He noted that the sender probably took the card from the festival site and subsequently mailed it at the nearby post office in Königsfeld.

Recently I managed to find a card sent from the special post office. It has the above mentioned machine cancel Brünn 2, dated 28.VI/14 X and sent to Gewitsch /Jevičko in Moravia. Because we are dealing with a card sold at the festival site and mailed at Brno 2 on June 28, 1914, we can almost certainly say that this card passed through that special post office.





Although the *Bulletin* mentioned the temporary post office would also be open on 29 June 1914, no items with that date are known. This is not surprising as on 28 June 1914 the Austrian Archduke and heir to the throne Franz Ferdinand and his wife were killed in Sarajevo by a Serbian activist, an incident that sparked events leading to the First World War. The local newspapers of the time indicate all activities in Brno (a shooting match was also scheduled) were terminated as soon as news reached the motherland.

For this reason there were probably only two dispatches from the special post office to the main post office. The card shown here was cancelled there at 10:00, as was the first card mentioned by Brian Day.



### Reference

*Bebildeter Katalog der Gelegenheits- & Sonderpostämter*, Hans-Dieter Scholz, 2012 Eigenverlag, Gaming (A), ISBN 978-3-200-02655-1.

## Hungarian Names Used in Slovak Cancels

- Johan Sevenhuijsen and Alan Soble -

After the falling (or tearing) apart of the Hungarian kingdom in 1918/19 a considerable part of the country became the Slovak portion of the new state of Czechoslovakia. The new state was confronted with many issues, of which the organizing of a new postal system did not get highest priority. Within a few months (at the end of December 1918) the government succeeded in emitting its first stamps, the Hradčany issue. The distribution of new postmarks took longer.

In the Slovak portion of the country only a few were issued in 1919; most places got theirs in 1920. This was at least in part due to the fact that the new authorities had to determine the names to be used for each place. Unlike the situation in the Czech portion of the country, the Hungarian government had insisted that only Hungarian names be used for postal (and presumably all other) use. Many places had no accepted Slovak alternative name, so a new list of names had to be drawn up and agreed upon before the post offices could be officially renamed. That took until 1920. Mirroring the situation before 1919, the Slovak authorities in most cases decided to adopt Slovak names, disregarding the Hungarian names used for many years.

In a number of cases the new name was pronounced the same way the Hungarian name was, but written differently. For instance: Csata became Čata, Vázsecz became Važec.

In other cases the name from the Hungarian period was preserved, including the way it was written. In those cases one can argue that the new Slovak cancels are in the Hungarian language (although the Hungarian name may well have had Slovak origins to begin with).

In some cases the authorities decided to keep the Hungarian name of a place in addition to the new Slovak name. In those cases bilingual Slovak/Hungarian cancels were produced. Dr Z Palotas (in 1987) and Alan Soble have written about these bilingual cancels before in the American *Stamps of Hungary*.

In a Hungarian publication László Filep listed the known cancels, using the *Czechoslovak Monografie* as the source. His list was reprinted in *The Newsletter of Hungarian Philately*, Oct-Dec 1995.

Without knowing of his work (and stimulated by Alan's articles) Johan decided to make a list of places with Hungarian names and bilingual cancels from the same source, including some cancels not in that listing, and also including information on the period each of the cancels was in use. All in all about four to five per cent of the 985 places in Slovakia having post offices during the 1920-39 period had a monolingual Hungarian cancel during at least part of that period. Also about four to five per cent had a bilingual Slovak/Hungarian cancel at some time during that period.

The list below is the most complete we could draw up using known sources. There are, however, mistakes and omissions in the *Monografie* listing. Also that volume does not list postal agencies, which also had postmarks. So there is room for additions and corrections to this list. Anyone having evidence of further cancels using Hungarian place names, please write to the editor!

Finding these cancels takes a lot of searching in vast quantities of stamps or entires, as most of the places were relatively small. The Dunajská Streda/Dunaszerdahely cancels are the most common; that town in 1910 boasted 4,762 inhabitants, a village like Ajnácskő, also on the list, had 830. No wonder those cancels are scarce!

For collectors of Hungary the basic types of Czechoslovak cancels may be unfamiliar. The cancels produced in 1920 were (in the vast majority of cases) of the types illustrated, including the letters ČSP for *Česko Slovenská Pošta*. After 1923 most new cancels were made using a design without these letters. However, the 1920 cancels stayed in use, sometimes up to 1938/39. Many were replaced in 1929, when the names of places in Slovakia were reviewed and in many cases altered, as is to be seen from the following listings.





## Bilingual Cancels with Slovak and Hungarian Names (40 places = 4.1% of 985)

Hungarian (1928)	Slovak (1939)	Cancel	Period of Use
Ajnácskö	Hajnácska	Hajnácska/Ajnácskö <sup>1</sup>	1920-1930
Alsónyárasd	Dolní Ňaražd	Alistál/Dolní Štál/ Alistál	1931-1938
Balony	Baloň	Dolní Ňaražd/Alsónyárasd	1929-1938
Bátorkeszi	Bátorové Kesy	Baloň/Balony	1925-1938
Bogya	Bod'a	Kesy/ Bátorkeszi	1920-1929
Bős	Beš	Bod'a/Bogya	1920-1938
		Beš/Böös <sup>1</sup>	1920-1937
		Beš/Bös <sup>1</sup>	1937-1938
Búcs	Búč	Búč/Búcs	1920-1934
Csallóközarányos	Zlatná na Ostrove	Araňoš na Žitnom Ostrove/Csallóköz-Aranyos	1920-1929
		Zlatná na Ostrove/Aranyos	1929-1938
Csallóköznyék	Nekyje na Ostrove	Niek/Csallóköznyék	1920-1929
		Nekyje na Ostrove/Nyék	1929-1938
Csicsó	Čičov	Čičov/Csicsó	1920-1938
Csilizradvány	Čilizská Radvaň	Čilizská Radvaň/Csilizradvány	1920-1925
Csütörtök	Štvrtok na Ostrove	Štvrtok na Žitnom Ostrove/Csallóközcsütörtök <sup>1</sup>	1920-1929
		Štvrtok na Ostrove/Csütörtök	1929-1938
Dunaszerdahely	Dunajská Streda	Dunajská Streda/Dunaszerdahely	1920-1937
		Dunajská Streda/Duna Szerdahely	1927-1938
Egyházgelle	Kostolná Gala	Ed'házgele/Egyházgelle	1920-1929
		Kostolná Gala/Egyház Gelle	1929-1938
Ekecs	Ekeč	Ekeč/ Ekecs	1920-1939
Felbár	Horní Bar	Horní Bar/Felbár	1929-1938
Förév	Prievoz	Feriby/Förév	1920-1929
Gutor	Gutora	Gutora/Gutor	1920-1923
Jóka	Jelka	Jelka/Jóka	1929-1938
Keszegfalva	Keszegfalva	Jelka/Jóka	1929-1938
Királyfiakarcsa	Kráľovicove Korčany	Kesegfalva/Keszegfalva	1920-1929
Kolozsnéma	Klišska Nemá	Kráľovicove Korčany/Királyfia Karcsa	1929-1938
Komáromszentpéter	Svätý Peter	Koložsnéma/ Kolozsnéma	1920-1929
Misérd	Mischdorf	Svätý Petr pri Komárnu/Komáromszentpéter	1920-1929
		Mišerd/Misérd	1920-1929
		Mischdorf/Misérd	1929-1939
Muzsla	Mužla	Mužla/Muszla <sup>2</sup>	1920-1928
		Mužla/Muzsla	1928-1938
Nagymagyar	Veľký Mager	Veľký Magendorf/Nagymagyar	1920-1929
		Veľký Mager/Nagy magyar	1929-1938
Nagymegyer	Veľký Meder	Veľký Meder/Nagymegyer	1920-1938
Nemesócsa	Zemianska Olča	Zemianská Olča/Nemesócsa	1920-1935
		Zemianska Olča/Nemes Olcsa	1930-1938
Örsújfalú	Nová Stráž	Nová Stráž/Örs Újfalú	1929-1938
Pozsonypüspöki	Biskupice pri Dunaji	Biskupice pri Bratislave/Pozsonypüspöki	1920-1929
		Biskupice pri Dunaji/Püspöki	1927-1929
Rimaszécs	Rimavská Seč	Siač/Rimaszécs	1919-1929
Sárosfa	Blatná na Ostrove	Šárošfa/Sárosfa	1920-1929
		Blatná na Ostrove/Sárosfa	1929-1938
Somorja	Šamorín	Šamorín/Somorja	1920-1929
		Šamorín/Somorja	1927-1938
Szentmihályfa	Svätý Michal na Ostrove	Svätý Michal na Ostrove/Szent Mihályfa	1929-1938
Szimő	Zemné	Zemné/Szimő <sup>1</sup>	1929-1938
Tany	Tôň	Taň/Tany	1920-1929
		Tôň/Tany	1929-1938
Udvard	Dvory nad Žitavou	Dvory nad Žitavou/Udvard	1929-1933
Vajka	Vajka nad Dunajom	Vajka nad Dunajom/Duna Vajka	1929-1938
Vásárút	Trhová Hradská	Vášarut/Vásárút	1920-1929
		Trhová Hradská/Vásárút	1929-1938

<sup>1</sup> Hungarian name should read *Csallóközcsütörtök*, second *s* is missing in the cancel.

<sup>2</sup> Hungarian name should read *Muzsla*; *sz* is used instead of *zs* in this cancel (according to the *Monografie*).

## Cancels with Monolingual Hungarian Names (42 places = 4.3 %)

Hungarian (1918)	Slovak (1939)	Cancel	Period of Use
Abrahám	Abrahám	Abrahám	1920-1939
Alistál	Dolní Štál	Alistál	1920-?
Bagota	Bagota	Bagota	1920-1938
Baka	Baka	Baka	1920-1938
Bart	Bart	Bart	1920-1938
Bátka	Bátka	Bátka	1921-1938
Breza	Breza	Breza	1920-1924
Budatin	Budatín	Budatin	1920-1923
Buzita	Buzita	Buzita	1921-1938
Farnad	Farnad	Farnad	1920-1938
Fél	Fél	Fél	1920-1938
Felbár	Horní Bar	Felbár	1920-1929
Feled	Feledince	Feled	1920-1929
Gúta	Guta	Gúta	1920-1938
Havaj	Havaj	Havaj	1920-1939
Helpa	Helpa	Helpa	1935-1939
Jablonka	Jablonka	Jablonka	1920-1924
Jálna	Jálná	Jálna (provisional cancel)	1920
Jánok	Jánok	Jánok	1920-1938
Javorina	Javorina	Javorina	1920-1938
Jóka	Jelka	Jóka	1920-1929
Karva	Karva	Karva	1920-1938
Keszegfalva	Keszegfalva	Keszegfalva	1929-1938
Királyfiakarcsa	Kráľovicove Korčany	Királyfiakarcsa	1922-1929
Köbölkút	Köbölkút	Köbölkút	1920-1938
Kurima	Kurima	Kurima	1921-1939
Kürt	Kert'	Kürt	1920-1929
Láb	Láb	Láb	1936-1939
Örsújfalu	Nová Stráž	Örsújfalu	1920-1929
Párkány-Nána	Parkan	Parkány Nána <sup>ii</sup>	1920-1921
Perbete	Perbete	Perbete	1920-1938
Pered	Pered	Pered	1920-1938
Poltár	Poltár	Poltár	1920-1939
Szentmihályfa	Svätý Michal na Ostrove	Szentmihályfa	1920-1929
Szimő	Zemné	Szimő <sup>i</sup>	1920-1929
Tallós	Tallós	Tallós	1929-1938
Udvard	Dvory nad Žitavou	Udvard	1920-1929
Udvarnok	Dvorníky pri Hlohovci	Udvarnok	1920-1929
Vajka	Vajka nad Dunajom	Vajka	1920-1929
Zalaba	Zalaba	Zalaba	1920-1938
Zohor	Zohor	Zohor	1920-1939
Zubrohlava	Zubrohlava	Zubrohlava	1920-1939

### Cancels Unlisted in *Monografie*:

*Unlisted Czech cancel seen by Alan Soble on 1920 issue Czech 15 h Dove; the place is on the Hungary/ Slovak border and was returned to Hungary on 15.02.1924*

Somoskőújfalu	Šomošová	Somoskőújfalu	1920-1924?
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*Unlisted bilingual cancels listed by Dr Z Palotas in Stamps of Hungary 89 (June 1987)*

Dunamócs	Moča	Moča/Mocsa	???
Kürt	Kert'	Kert' /Kürt	???
Lakszakállas	Laksakálaš	Laksakálaš/ Lakszakállas	???

*Reprinted with the permission of the author from the Newsletter of Hungarian Philately.*

<sup>i</sup> The Hungarian name is written with an ő (*hosszu* on *o*), in the cancels there are normal dots.

<sup>ii</sup> The Hungarian name is written with an á (*acute* on *a*) in Pár, in the cancel there is a normal *a*.



## Book Review

### Compendium of 1944-1945 Liberation Overprints

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain has published a new volume, no. 25, in its series of monographs: *Compendium of 1944-1945 Liberation Overprints* by Karel Holoubek and translated by Robert J Hill. In 2006 the authors Karel and Jan Holoubek from Hradec Králové published the first



Czech version of this publication under the title *Seznam revolučních přetisku 1944-1945* and published a second edition in 2011. This new publication by the CSPGB is based on the second edition to which the late Vladimír Markus, well known to many of us, made a large contribution. In cooperation with the authors and a team of translators led by Robert J Hill, the CSPGB has done a great job in making information about the theme of the liberation overprints of 1944-1945 available to all non-Czech speaking collectors.

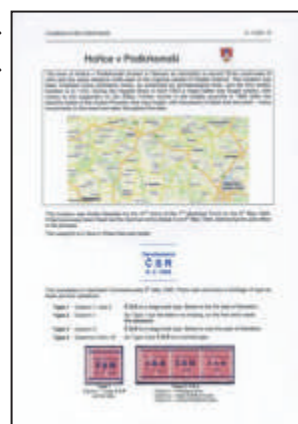
In the introduction the author treats the origin of the large number of local overprints. When the country was liberated, many post offices were destroyed. In those days regional committees took charge. There was no one to tell them what to do: the republic was divided, nobody knew what the future would bring, and the government was far away. Local postmasters took the initiative to overprint the stock of stamps left behind.

Chapter 2 treats the origin and the composition of the often primitive overprints. A splendid thing about this monograph is the fact that the authenticity of the liberation overprints is often proved by existing documents and declarations of witnesses. The next chapters treat the political situation and the progress of the liberation, then the overprints are documented according to place of issue: 3 – Carpatho-Ukraine; 4 – Slovakia; 5 – Czech Republic; 6 – The overprints of the Czechoslovak army in France; 7 – Literature; 8 – Counterfeits and forgeries; 9 – Other known overprints.

For all areas mentioned a description in alphabetical order is given of the town with an illustration of its overprint. On every occasion the authenticity of the overprints shown is indicated. When known, souvenir folders, postcards, commemorative folders, and other postal documents are treated.

Chapter 8 treats a number of counterfeits and forgeries. Its warnings about unknown overprints and backdated postmarks is obviously needed. Chapter 9 contains many illustrations, mostly from the catalogue by J S Grau (Spain). For many of these overprints the authenticity is still not confirmed. It can be concluded that this monograph is a fantastic document which belongs in the library of all collectors of material from the turbulent years of 1944 and 1945.

A CD containing the whole monograph in full colour accompanies the printed version. ISBN 978-0-9553682-2-3, size A4, 326 pages, illustrations partly in colour. Reviewed by Andries T Tiesinga, member of Vereniging voor Tsjechoslowakije-Filatelie (Netherlands), translated by Hans van Dooremalen and Rex Dixon.



## What? Where? When?

### New Queries

From **Mark Wilson:**

Compiling the *Interactive Indexes to Czechout* requires establishing, if possible, the Stanley Gibbons and POFIS catalogue numbers for each stamp mentioned in a article. Usually, only the latest issues remain uncatalogued. Imagine my surprise when recently I attempted to find the *World Ice Hockey Championships, Germany 2010* (POFIS 641) in the new *Stanley Gibbons* 2012 edition. Its release date (23 June 2010) should have placed it between SG 616 and 617, but it is not there. I emailed Stanley Gibbons, but have received neither answer nor acknowledgement. Did it appear in the *Supplements* for 2010 but fail to reach the catalogue? Can anyone help me identify the correct SG number?



### Printing Techniques

**RD:** rotary die stamping with multi-colour photogravure.  
**DS:** die stamping from flat plates.



### Czech NVI Stamps with Current Rates

**A:** ordinary internal letter to 50 g – 10 Kč.

**E:** ordinary standard letter to 20 g to European countries – 20 Kč.

**Z:** ordinary standard air letter to 20 g to non-European countries – 21 Kč.



## New Issues – Czech Republic

6 March 2013

Historical Transport – Tugboat *Pěčko* and Aero *HC2 Heli Baby*



**Designer:** Pavel Sivko.

**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň.

**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50 (se-tenant pairs of 25).

**FDCs** printed DS.

**Designs:** a) a *Pěčko 18* steam tugboat. FDC: printed in dark blue with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows the bow of a tugboat tied up at the quay side. b) helicopter Aero *HC2–Heli Baby*. FDC: printed in dark blue with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing is a detail of the helicopter with rotor arms. Maximum cards of the stamps were issued.



Rivers have been used from the earliest times to carry goods and people. Until the invention of steam engines the arduous task of manoeuvring vessels on inland waterways was by manual labour and then by draught animals. Pulling upstream against the prevailing current was particularly difficult and in some places tracks were laid to facilitate the movement of vessels. With the invention of the steam engine and later more efficient diesel engines these tracks became obsolete. Today some of the tracks are preserved for use as recreational paths.

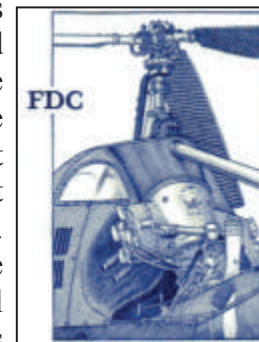


The invention of the steam engine brought a boom in the use of tugboats which reached a peak in the nineteenth century before the growth of overland railways. Traditionally tugboats are used for pulling but in the late twentieth century they were also used for pushing. Propeller steam tugs known as P-type or *Pěčko* were the most common type in use on the Czech stretch of the Vltava and Labe rivers. They were originally designed for the port of Hamburg, being shorter, wider, and of a deeper draft than traditional riverboat tugs. The largest of these craft had a maximum propeller size of two metres.

The Aero *HC2 Heli Baby* is a light general-purpose utility helicopter. It was designed by Jaroslav Slechta and produced by Aero Vodochody in the 1950s and was the first Czechoslovak-designed craft. The first Czech helicopters were developed by the Aero factory in the 1940s but construction of the prototype HC2 did not begin until 1951 with its first flight on 3 December 1954. The first official flights were made at the 1955 Brno Trade Fair. Production, due to start in 1957, was delayed because of an engine problem but eventually 200 were built.



The Czechoslovak Army and Czechoslovak Air Force used these helicopters. In 1961 a successor model HC102 with a more powerful engine and modern technical features was introduced but in 1963 this was again upgraded by a new model HC103 which was never launched as the Czechoslovak



Army switched to Soviet helicopters. The *Heli Baby* can be used for transport, training and other duties. It has two seats with a maximum take-off weight of 580 kg, maximum speed of 126 km per hour and a range of 150 km. In 1959 it was one of the world's lightest two-seater helicopters.



## 6 March 2013      Definitive – Folk Architecture



**Designer:** Jan Kavan.

**Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider.

**Printing:** RD in sheets of 100.

There was no official FDC.

**Design:** a cottage – No. 451 in Nový Hrozenkov, Vsetín district.

The town is on the Vsetín to Velké Karlovice road in the Vsetíná Bečva river valley. Amongst the modern buildings in the town centre are a group of older timbered cottages, of which No. 451 is one. This cottage has been used since 1977 as a museum for the painter and illustrator Antonín Strnadel. The cottage is a timbered structure of three chambers, two gables, and an under-gable dating back to 1835. The northern gable faces the town and is whitewashed with painted ornaments and an inscription with the builder's name. The building is sited on uneven terrain so the southern aspect (shown on the stamp) is erected on high supporting stonework which includes a cellar. Two traditionally styled beehives are included in the drawing.

## 3 April 2013      Beauties of Our Country – Seven-hundred-fiftieth Anniversary of the Foundation of Zlatá Koruna Monastery.



**Designer:** Jan Kavan.

**Engraver:** Václav Fajt.

**Printing:** DS in ochre, red, violet and black in sheets of 8.

**FDC:** printed DS in grey-green with commemorative Zlatá Koruna cancel. The cachet drawing shows an architectural detail of the monastery.

**Design:** montage of views of the monastery.

The Zlatá Koruna (Golden Crown) Monastery lies about 8 km north of Český Krumlov. It is said that King Přemysl II Otakar of Bohemia founded the monastery in 1263 after making a vow that he would build a monastery if he won the battle of Kressenbrunn against King Béla IV of Hungary in 1260.

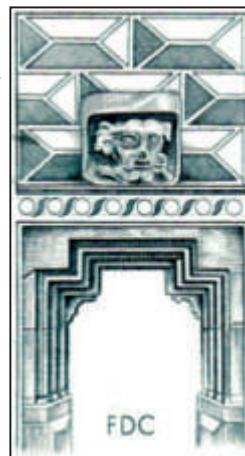
Originally the building had the name *Sancta Corona Spinea* – the *Thorn of the Holy Crown* – because a relic of a thorn from Christ's crown was given to the monastery by King Přemysl II. Its foundation had a political motive, too. It was to curb the expansion and power of the Vitek family who owned Český Krumlov. The King also endowed the monastery with large lands which were increased by donations from other people. After the king's death the buildings were demolished by the Vitek family but reconstruction began with support from Vaclav II.

The monastery flourished during the fourteenth century but during the Hussite Wars the monastery was set on fire in 1420 and severely damaged. After the Thirty



Years War in the seventeenth century the monastery recovered and reconstruction began in the Baroque style. The late eighteenth century was another period of prosperity with the monks setting up a school for local peasant children but monastic life ended when Josef II (Habsburg dynasty) issued a decree of abolition in 1785. The buildings were bought by the Schwarzenbergs of Český Krumlov two years later who rented them out to various business enterprises. Reconstruction began in 1909 and continued until World War II when it was confiscated by the Protectorate.

In 1948 it became the property of the Czechoslovak Government and was managed by the State Scientific Library between 1979 and 2000. It became a National Cultural Heritage site in 1995.



### 3 April 2013 Personalities – George Orwell (1903 – 1950)



**Designer:** Oldřich Kulháněk.

**Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček.

**Printing:** RD in sheets of 50.

**FDC:** printed DS in brown-lilac with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing depicts Arrogance.

**Design:** a portrait of George Orwell.

George Orwell was the pen name of the British author Eric Arthur Blair born in India 25 June 1903 and died in London of tuberculosis 21 January 1950. He was a journalist, essayist, and novelist committed to democratic socialism and opposed to totalitarianism and social injustice. When he was about a

year old and his elder sister about six, his mother returned to England to live in Oxfordshire. The local river Orwell became his pen name. His parents were not well off although he studied at a private boarding school in Eastbourne which he hated. Eventually he won a scholarship place to Eton but his parents were unable to finance a university education. He successfully passed the entry examination for a position in the



Indian Imperial Police and chose a posting in Burma. It was whilst he was working in Burma that he began to question imperialism. He returned to England for health reasons in 1927 and chose not to return to Burma, instead attempting to write essays and work as a journalist. He visited and studied the poor working class areas of London and even lived on the streets. His experiences provided material for his writings including the

1933 novel *Down and Out in Paris and London*. His experiences as a volunteer fighter in the Spanish Civil War are described in *Homage to Catalonia*. To recover from wounds and ill health he lived for a short while in Morocco. During World War II he was declared medically unfit to fight but did become a member of the Home Guard. Throughout the war he wrote regular features for newspapers and magazines and from 1940 worked for the BBC. Shortly before his death he wrote the allegorical novel *Animal Farm* which included the saying “All animals are equal but some are more equal than others”. This novel and *1984* describe the inhumane nature of totalitarian ideologies and gained worldwide popularity. His books were banned under the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia.



### 10 April 2013 Česká pojišťovna RUNTOUR 2013



This issue is an addition to the publicized list for 2013. It is the first official issue of the Czech Post *Česká Pojišťovna Runtour 2013* and is a self-adhesive personalised A-value stamp. The stamps are printed in sheets of 25 using multi-coloured offset. The logo of the event appears with a silhouette of people running and below that the text of the venues of the competition. No details are given about the designer. There are no FDCs, First Day Sheets or cancelled-to-order stamps.

Runtour is a popular cross-country event for the general public with no distinction in age or gender. This year the race will be held in seven different districts of the Republic:

- 13 April – České Budějovice
- 4 May – Plzeň
- 1 June – Hradec Králové
- 20 July – Liberec
- 24 August – Olomouc
- 14 September – Brno
- 5 October – Praha.



## 24 April 2013      Definitive – President of the Czech Republic



**Designer and Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček.

**Printing:** rotary recess in dark violet combined with photogravure in red in sheets of 100.

**Design:** portrait of President Miloš Zeman. Stamp has A face value. There is no official FDC.

Miloš Zeman was born in Kolín on 28 September 1944. He became leader of the Czech Social Democratic Party and is a former Speaker of the House of Deputies (1996-1998). He was Prime Minister from 1998 to 2002. After he retired he was nominated as President but Václav Klaus was successful. He left the SDP in 2007 after differences with the leader and chairman to become an outspoken critic known for his sharp speeches and wit. Presidential elections were held in January 2013. On 8 March 2013 Miloš Zeman became the third president of the Czech Republic replacing Václav Klaus after ten years.

## 2 May 2013      Europa – Means of Postal Transport



**Designer:** Karel Dvořák.

**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň.

**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 6. FDC recess from flat plates in black  
**FDC:** with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is the Czech Post logo.

**Design:** a horse-drawn mail coach used for parcels.



All states in the PostEurope organization have an annual stamp issue with a common theme which for 2013 is *Postal Means of Transportation*. The Czech Republic issue highlights a horse-drawn mail coach. The Model IV shown on the stamp was a single-horse cargo coach used by the Austrian Post. The Czechoslovak Post used this type of carriage for delivering parcels to business and private recipients until the early 1960s.



This Model IV coach was not one of the largest but was robust with a maximum laden weight of one tonne. The wooden body had a sheet-metal covering with a three-cubic-metre lockable cargo space inside with further room for parcels on the roof. Initially the coach had one lamp but later there were two mounted on the upper part of the body behind the postilion's seat. The Postal Museum at Vyšší Brod displays an original Model IV coach which had been in use during the inter-war years. The FDC drawing shows the Czechoslovak Post logo used on Post vehicles since 1923. It has the traditional posthorn suspended from the small national emblem by tassels in the national colours of white, red and blue. The Prague-based design firm Karel Mollenda supplied the logo which was used until 1963 when it was replaced by the Ministry of Communications' logo.

### Postal Stationery Commemorative Postcards

The following postcards have the logo of the Czech Post and a security hologram to the left of the imprinted stamp. The first line for the address is a continuous micro-print *Czech Post, PTC 2013*.

## 21 January 2013      The Biathlon World Championships 2013

**Designer:** Jan Ungrád.

**Printing:** multi-coloured offset.

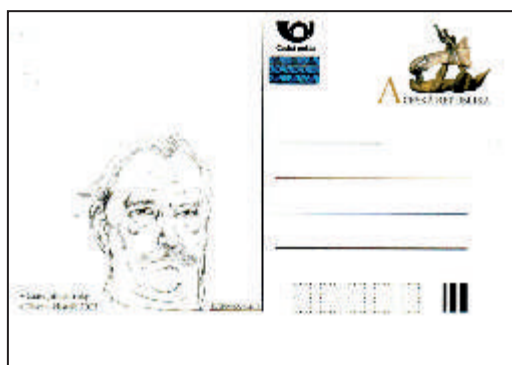
**Design:** imprinted Z stamp depicts a competitor at the shooting range. The left portion of the card has a competitor skiing with the IBU logo and text, in Czech, *The Biathlon World Championships 2013, Nové Město na Moravě, 7 – 17.2. 2013* and the Czech flag.



At the Eighth International Biathlon Union Congress held in Prague in 2008 the Forty-sixth Biathlon World Championships were awarded to Nové Město na Moravě for 2013 which included the right to hold the World Cup there for 2012. The last World Cup Biathlon previously held in Czechoslovakia was in Jáchymov in 1981. The IBU was founded as a separate organization in July 1993 and has its headquarters in Salzburg, Austria. The IBU is responsible for organizing the sport at junior and senior levels. In preparation for this year's events Nové Město na Moravě has

built a new shooting range and expanded its stadium accommodation. There are eleven events which count towards the Biathlon World Cup season: sprint, pursuit, individual and mass-start relay races for both men and women, and a mixed relay race. Retail price of the card – 26 Kč.

### 13 February 2013 Jiří Trnka



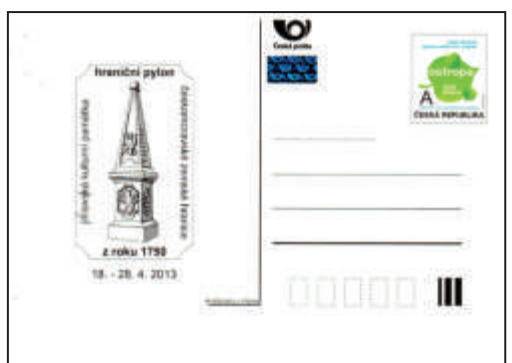
**Designer:** Klára Trnková.

**Printing:** full coloured offset.

**Design:** imprinted *A* stamp shows a coloured sculpture of St George slaying the dragon. The left part of the card has a self-portrait of Jiří Trnka with the text in Czech *Jiří Trnka Exhibition in St George's Monastery 2013*

Professor Jiří Trnka (1912-1969) was an artist, illustrator, sculptor, scriptwriter and animated film director. During his childhood he was involved in creating puppets with his family. He eventually graduated from the School of Applied Arts in Prague and began a career in stage design and construction in Prague. Later he started his own puppet theatre but this was dissolved when World War II began. During the war he designed stage sets, costumes, and illustrated books. In his lifetime he illustrated more than 130 books, mostly for children, including stories by the Brothers Grimm, Hans Andersen, Perrault, and the *Fables* of La Fontaine. After the war he was one of the founders of an animated film studio. He preferred using puppets in his films. His best known puppet films include Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Old Czech Legends*, and Jaroslav Hašek's *Good Soldier Svejk*. The puppets for *Good Soldier Svejk* were inspired by the original book illustrations by Josef Lada. Retail price of the card – 15 Kč.

### 13 February 2013 Jihlava – Ostropa



**Designers:** Jiří Pýcha (stamp) and Martin Kos (illustration).

**Printing:** full coloured offset.

**Design:** imprinted *A* stamp has the exhibition logo. The left side of the card depicts a 1750 Czech-Moravian border post with the text in Czech *Jihlava Cultural Heritage* and the dates *18 – 28. 4. 2013*.

The first Ostropa (Osteuropäische Briefmarken Ausstellung – East European Stamp Exhibition) took place in 1935 in the thirteenth century castle at Königsberg, East Prussia (now Kaliningrad, Russia). A souvenir sheet was issued. Since then various Ostropa exhibitions have been held. Ostropa 2013 is a competitive exhibition of stamps in the national category. The aim of the exhibition is to promote philately and cooperation between Czech and German philatelists. The exhibition dates coincide with the ninetieth anniversary of the Czech Philatelic Club in Jihlava, the twentieth anniversary of the Czech Republic, and the twentieth anniversary of the first Czech Republic postage stamp. Retail price of the card – 15 Kč.



**3 April 2013****Jihlava – Ostropa****Designers:** Jiří Pýcha and Martin Kos (cachet).**Printing:** full coloured offset.**Design:** imprinted *E* stamp with the exhibition logo. Cachet – the earliest recording of the municipal emblem of Jihlava from the Gelnhausen Codex, an illuminated manuscript from the early fifteenth century.

Ostropa 2013 is a special national competitive exhibition designed to promote cooperation between Czech and German philatelists. The exhibition commemorates the ninetieth anniversary of the

founding of the Czech Philatelic Club in Jihlava, the twentieth anniversary of the Czech Republic, and twentieth anniversary of the first Czech Republic stamp. Retail price of the card – 25 Kč.

**3 April 2013****Seventieth Anniversary of the Philatelic Club 00-15 of Specialized Philatelic Areas, Prague.****Designer:** Pavel Sivko.**Printing:** multi coloured offset.**Design:** imprinted *A* stamp has a facsimile label which was used by the postal authorities on items with a missing or incorrect postcode. The text commemorates the fortieth anniversary of the introduction of postcodes. The cachet depicts a registered, express letter addressed to the then venue of the club meetings and an old Postalia franking machine.

The 00-15 Club of Prague was set up on 13 May 1943 as a philatelic part of the Sports Club of Employees of the City of Prague. After the formation of the Union of Czechoslovak Philatelists in 1965, the club adopted its present name and number. The specialised philatelic areas were later changed to postal history and stationery in the club's title. This motivated collectors to widen their horizons of collecting so that the postal history, postal operations, historical development of the post, prestamp history, postal stationery, cancellations, labels, and postal vehicles are now included as areas worthy of study. Retail price of the card – 15 Kč.

## New Issues – Slovak Republic

**3 December 2012****Day of the Postage Stamp – Pavol Sochán****Designer:** Robert Jančovič.**Printing:** offset Heidelber Speedmaster with se-tenant label.**FDC:** printed offset in grey-black with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The oval cachet is from a photograph of a seated peasant woman in traditional dress with a young child on her lap.**Design:** portrait of Pavol Sochán with his birth and death dates and a facsimile signature. The label shows one of his early photographs of a young woman in traditional dress.

Pavol Sochán (1862-1941, Bratislava) was an ethnographer, journalist, photographer, and dramatist. He studied in Kežmarok and later Lučenec where he was expelled from all schools in Hungary by the Hungarian authorities for promoting Slovak language and literature. After four years' study at the Prague Painting Academy and Charles University, he went to Munich to study photography. In 1893

he opened his own photographic studio in Martin after working for some years as a freelance photographer in J Eckert's studio in Prague. For the Czechoslovak Ethnographic Exhibition held in 1895 in Prague, Socháň was involved with the preparation of the Slovak exhibits. After accusations against him of Pan-Slavism



he was forced to leave for the USA in 1914 where he worked as a journalist and supported his compatriots agitating for freedom from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. On his return to the newly formed Czechoslovakia he worked in Prague and Bratislava. He issued about 400 of his photographs of Slovak traditional costumes as postcards.

He is buried in the National Cemetery, Martin.



### 1 January 2013 Twentieth Anniversary of the Slovak Republic – Košice, European Capital of Culture 2013



**Designer:** Peter Augustovič.

**Engraver:** Jozef Česla (FDC cachet only).

**Printing:** offset Heidelberg Speedmaster in sheets of 8 stamps and 16 labels (8 each of 2 designs).

**FDC:** recess.

**Design:** stamp – a panorama of the capital city of Bratislava outlined with a three-coloured ribbon in national colours; se-tenant label **a)** a silhouette of St Elizabeth's Cathedral, Košice outlined in a ribbon in the city colours with text in Slovak – *European Capital City of Culture* and *Košice 2013*; **b)** the figure 20 thinly outlined in white, blue, and red.

Košice has been chosen with Marseilles in France to be a European City of Culture for 2013. The tradition of European Capital of Culture began in 1985 to bring Europeans closer together by highlighting their diversity of cultures but raising awareness of their common history and values. Each year a city is designated by the European Union for one year during which time it organizes various cultural events. So far over 40 cities have been host cities. This is the first time that a Slovak city has been given the title.

Košice lies on the banks of the River Hornád at the eastern end of the Slovak Ore Mountains about 21 km north of the border with Hungary. Today it has a population of about 240,000, is the capital of Eastern Slovakia, and the second



city of Slovakia after Bratislava. It is the economic and cultural centre of the region with three universities, the seat of the Constitutional Court, seat of the Archdiocese of Košice, and has a number of museums, galleries, and theatres. The city is an important industrial centre with the largest employer the US Steel Košice Steel Mill. The city has a well-preserved historic centre with heritage protected buildings in Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, and Art Nouveau styles. The largest church is St Elisabeth's Cathedral dating from 1378 built from the wealth of the salt trade. The origins of the settlement go back to the 9th century and it was the first in Europe to be granted its own coat of arms in 1369.



### 25 January 2013 Cultural Heritage of Slovakia – Empire Theatre in Hlohovec



**Designer:** Igor Piačka.

**Engravers:** Martin Činovský (stamp); Ľubomír Žálec (FDC cachet).

**Printing:** rotary recess.

**FDC:** recess by TAB s.r.o. Bratislava in grey with commemorative Hlohovec cancel. The cachet drawing depicts the central portico of the theatre with the coat of arms of the Erdödy family with five putti playing various musical instruments.

**Design:** a putti (naked child in the form of an angel) holding a face mask and a tambourine.

The Empire Theatre in Hlohovec was built by Count Jozef Erdödy and his wife Elizabeth Mayer in 1802 in the English Garden of their estate for the visit of Emperor Joseph II. The building is small, simply designed and intimate with seating for 130. The coat of arms of the family are above both entrances and a Latin inscription *To sisters Thalia* [muse of comedy] *and Melpomene* [muse of tragedy] *from a friend of muses G[roß] J[ozef] E[rdödy] 1802.* The interior is decorated with paintings on the walls and ceiling. The Count was a great patron of the arts. He commissioned Joseph Haydn to compose the Op. 76 String Quartets written in 1796/7 and Ludwig van Beethoven visited Hlohovec during his stays at Dolná Krupá and Piešťany.



14 February 2013

### Sports Personalities – Ján Popluhár



**Designer:** Igor Benca.

**Printing:** offset by Heidelber Speedmaster with se-tenant label.

**FDC:** offset by TAB s.r.o. Bratislava in grey-black with commemorative Bernolákovo cancel. The cachet design shows Popluhár in action during a game heading a ball. The stamp issue commemorates the one-hundred-fiftieth

anniversary of the establishment of organized football in England.

**Design:** stamp – an action portrait of Popluhár with two spheres and map of the world in the background; label – two overlapping red spheres with the map of the world and text in Slovak *England vs FIFA/Wembley 1963* and *Ján Popluhár FIFA selected player*.

Ján Popluhár (1935-2011) began his football career in AC Čeklís (today Bernolákovo). He was considered one of the best defensive players in the world. He played for the Czechoslovak national team in 62 matches and in 1965 was named Czechoslovak football player of the year. In 2000 he was awarded the accolade of best Slovak football player of the twentieth century. For the one-hundredth anniversary of the English Football Association he was invited to play on the FIFA World Eleven side against the English team at Wembley. Sir Stanley Matthews invited him to his farewell match in 1965. He earned many awards in his career and after leaving professional football helped the club Zbrojovka in Brno to gain promotion to the Premier League. In later life he became an ambassador for the European Union Football Association (UEFA).



1 March 2013

### Easter 2013 – Folk Motives in Ľudovít Fulla's Work



**Designer:** Robert Jančovič.

**Printing:** offset by Heidelber Speedmaster press.

**FDC:** offset by TAB s.r.o. Bratislava with commemorative Ružomberok cancel. Cachet design is a stylised decorated egg in green and bright mauve.

**Booklets** of 10 stamps were issued and a maximum card.

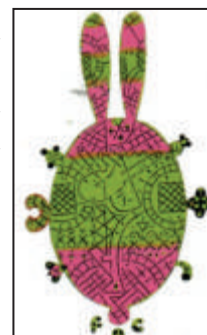
**Design:** a decorated egg with traditional motifs.

Ľudovít Fulla was born in Ružomberok 1902 and died in Bratislava 1980 – one of the most important Slovak creative artists of the twentieth century. He was a painter, graphic artist,



illustrator, stage designer, and teacher. His personal style relied on surface and decoration, a synthesis of rational and emotional elements, brilliant colours, and a knowledge of folk art, East Slavonic iconography, and world Modernism. He was inspired by the Prague Modernist group and influenced by Kandinsky, Chagall, Picasso, and Paul Klee. His works are characterised by the use of bright red, orange, and yellow colours. During his lifetime he received many international awards.

The Ľudovít Fulla Gallery in Ružomberok, part of the Slovak National Gallery, opened in 1969 to exhibit his work. The house where he lived and worked is on the Gallery site and is a museum.



#### 14 March 2013 Personalities – Dominik Tatarka



**Designers:** Dušan Grečner (stamp), Juraj Vitek (FDC cachet).

**Engraver:** Jozef Česla (FDC cachet).

**Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster press.

**Design:** portrait of the author.

**FDC:** recess TAB s.r.o., Bratislava with commemorative Plevník-Drienové cancel. The cachet design in grey is a symbolic drawing of a book in a field from which a tree is growing. The foliage of the tree is a meditating face surrounded

by smaller faces.

Dominik Tatarka (1913-1989) was a writer of prose, cultural and social essays, a translator, and one of the most significant Slovak writers of the twentieth century.



His first collection of stories published in 1942 ponders on the fate of humans during tragic times. In the 1950s his work was characterized by revolutionary ideology but in the book *The Demon of Conformity* (1963) he established his anti-Stalinist views. After the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 he refused to conform and became a dissident. His writings were banned but published and distributed clandestinely. Some of these writings were later published as integral volumes.



### Postal Stationery Commemorative Postcards

18 December 2012

214 CDV 192/12 Day of Slovak Postage Stamp



The card has T2 50 g imprinted stamp (historic post station). The cachet shows a selection of stamps bursting from a light blue background with two doves in flight. Below, the text in Slovak *The Day of the Slovak Postage Stamp and Philately 2012*. Retail price – € 0.55.

### Prepaid envelopes with imprint

1 January 2013 20 Years of Slovak Stamp (117 COB 113/12) imprinted T1 20 g stamp.

Cachet is a circle of Slovak stamps surrounding the blue numerals 20 interlaced with a ribbon in the Slovak colours of blue, red and white. Below in Slovak is the text *20 years of Slovak Stamp Production 16 – 25 January 2013 Mlyny Gallery, Nitra*. Retail price € 0.82.

## CPSGB Publications

Detailed catalogue and postal charges available from the Publications Manager.

### Monographs

- No. 3: *The Pošta Československo Overprints*, by Roy A. Dehn. 47p. 1985, reprinted 2000. £6.50.
- No. 4: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal Markings, 1938–1945*, by Juan E. Page. 42p. 1985, reprinted 2000 with improved maps. £7.50.
- No. 6: *The German Occupation of the Sudetenland, 1938*, by W. A. Dawson. 71p. 1988, reprinted 1994. £9.00.
- No. 7: *Index to articles on Czechoslovak philately, 1950–1979*, by James Negus. 15p. 1989, reprinted 2000. £1.50.
- No. 8: *Occupation of Czechoslovak Frontier Territories by Beck's Poland from the Postal History View-Point*, by Jiří Neumann. 43p. 1989, reprinted 1999. £7.50.
- No. 9: *The Field Post of the Czechoslovak & Allied Forces in Russia 1918–1920*, compiled by W. A. Page. 55p. 1991, reprinted 1994. £8.50.
- No. 10: *The 25th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Independence: The 1943 London Exhibitions*, by V. J. Kralicek and W. A. Page. 50p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £10.00
- No. 11: *The Sokols in Philately: Postal, commemorative postmarks & postcards*, by Brian C. Day. 69p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £12.50,
- No. 12: *Military Cards of the Exiled Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain, 1939–1945*, by V. J. Kraliček and W. A. Page. 30p. 1999. £7.50.
- No. 13: *The Hradčany Issue, 1918–1920*, by Robert Bradford. 34p. 2000. £7.50.
- No. 14: *The Liberation of Olomouc May 1945: Postal arrangements including local and revolutionary overprint issues*, by Robert J. Hill. 42p. 2004. £10.00.
- No. 15: *The postal history of the Free Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain, 1940–1945*, by Richard Beith. 90p. 2002. £12.50.
- No. 16: *The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and in Russia, 1939–1941, and, Czechoslovaks in the Middle East, 1940–1943*, by Dr Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung. 46p. 2003. £12.50.
- No. 17: *Czechoslovak Field Post, 1918–1921: A study of postal activities*, by Brian C. Day. 135p. 2002. £22.50.
- No. 18: *Postal Arrangements Following the Liberation of Prague in May 1945*, by Robert J. Hill. 92p. 2005. £16.50.
- No. 19: *Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook*, by John Hammonds, edited and additional research by Rex Dixon, based on the Ron Hollis Collection. 76p. 2009. £9.00.
- No. 20: *The Early Postal History of Carpatho-Ukraine, with particular reference to the Usage of the First Postage Stamps of Austria*, by Otto Hornung. 34p. 2007. £12.50
- No. 21: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal History and Stamps 1786–2000*, by Ing. J. Verlag. 230p. 2007, 2nd enlarged edition 2008. Ask whether in stock before ordering.
- No. 22: *Postmarks of the SO 1920 Plebiscite*, by Oldřich Tovačovský et al, translation by Robert Kingsley 66p. 2010. £15.00.
- No. 23: *The 1923 Agriculture and Science Issue (Hospodářství a věda)*, by Mark Wilson. 29p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 24: *Travelling Post Offices in German-occupied Sudetenland: An anthology*, by Dr Anthony M. Goodbody and Cyril Kidd. 30p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 25: *Compendium of 1944–1945 Liberation Overprints*, by Karel Holoubek, additional material and translation by Robert J. Hill. 314p, plus a CD with colour illustrations throughout. 2012. £17.50.
- No. 26: *Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939-1940*, by Richard Beith. 66p. 2013. £15.00.

### Other Publications

Bulletin No. 9: English translation of the text of *Monografie* No. 13 *Czech Postmarks from the Beginnings to 1918*, edited by C. Wackett. An essential companion to the *Monografie*. 39p. 1977, format revised 1985, reprinted 1996. £4.00.

*Fundamental Philatelic Terminology: A vocabulary in Czech/ German/ English*, by Vladimír Bernášek. Translations of almost 500 Czech philatelic terms, 15p. 1989, re-mastered with minor corrections 2001. £1.50.

