

CZECHOUT

No. 16

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CO-EDITORIAL

We enclose with this issue the catalogue for the Auction that will take place after the Annual General Meeting of the Society on Saturday 20 October.

Due to postal difficulties it is not sent to our overseas members where the time factor would prevent the bids arriving in time.

We congratulate Stuart Clark on winning the Stanley Gibbons Cup at the Kingston on Thames PS with a thematic entry showing stamps matched with photographs taken by himself. The display spanned 50 years from the Luisitania to the National Theatre.

John Guy has been elected President of the Epsom & Ewell PS from September, and Kay Goodman will be visiting the following societies - Shoreham on 19 September 1979, Sutton on 17 January 1980, and Yeovil on 14 April 1980.

Ernst Gorge has been to see our Life President George Pearson, and both George and his Wife are well and send their best wishes to all members. It is understood that Ernst left fairly well loaded down with 'Literature' so we are assured that certain members of this Society will be putting pen to paper after some researches!

Membership

We welcome into the society the following: -

H.P.Milsom (Cottingham); E.Dowell (Seaham); J.J.Ansell (Wotton-under-Edge); and regret that B.G.Holland (Shrewsbury) has had to resign his membership.

Query

Ernest Taylor has come across a double impression on SG1739ab (POFIS 279 & 285) President Svobada definitives; i.e. a sheet in which a whole sheet shows a double impression, through a sheet being printed twice, or as Ernest suspects a fresh-entry just affecting the one stamp on the sheet. He would be interested to hear of any other members coming across this item.

Society Meeting

A party of ten members gathered at Irene Galloway's house on Saturday 30 June and enjoyed displays from John Whiteside with 'Czech Field Post Offices in Slovakia 1918-1919;' Alec Page with 'Free Czech Forces Mail 1940-1945' and Kay Goodman with Czech Field Post Offices in France & Ancillary material of Czech Forces in GB.'

During the break Irene provided everyone with an excellent High Tea.

The next meeting of the Society will be on Saturday 20 October at the Hon. Secretary's home - 6 Fenn Close, Bromley BR1 4DX (Tel: 01.464.5844) 2.30 pm.

BY ROAD

From Central London drive via Elephant & Castle on the A2 along New Kent Road New Cross, Lewisham, Catford, following signposts "Bromley". (From Lewisham A21). About 2 miles after Catford watch out for Bromley Court Hotel which is on the right-hand side of the main road. Directly opposite the hotel turn left into Avondale Road. Continue right along Avondale Road which ultimately leads into Lake Avenue. No 6 is the sixth house on the left.

BY RAIL

From Charing Cross (main line) Station to Grove Park. A convenient train would be the 13.44 calling at London Bridge 13.50 (check times) and arriving at Grove Park approximately 14.12. where members can be met by car.

CO.EDITORIAL C'td

The Society Delegates to the British Philatelic Federation Congress will soon be on their way to Harrogate - a report on this will appear in the next issue of CZECHOUT.

Colin Spong Yvonne King
Co-Editors

SUPPLEMENT TO POFIS CATALOGUE Alan J Knight

Prices are in Kcs. (100h = 1 Kc = 5p)

Stamps issued during First Quarter of 1979

10 Years of Czecho-Slovak Federation

30 Years of COMECON (RVHP)

30 Years of Farmer Co-operatives (JZD)

	<u>FACE</u>	<u>MINT</u>	<u>USED</u>
2354 (Federation)	0.60	0.60	0.30
2355 (RVHP)	1.00	1.00	0.50
2356 (JZD)	0.30	0.30	0.10

INTERCOSMOS - 1st Anniversary of Joint Flight - USSR/CSSR

2357	0.30	0.30	0.10
2358	0.60	0.60	0.30
2359	1.60	1.60	0.80
2360	2.00	12.60	2.00
2361	4.00	4.00	2.00
A/2362 M/Sheet perforated	10.00	22.50	22.50
A/2362a* M/Sheet imperforated	10.00	-	-

*at the time of writing, this imperf sheet was unofficially being sold for 250 Kcs! (POFIS are out of stock.)

25 Years of Mountain Rescue Service (FLOWERS)

2363	0.10	0.10	0.10
2364	0.20	0.20	0.10
2365	0.30	0.30	0.20
2366	0.40	0.40	0.20
2367	3.00	8.00	3.00

PRICE CHANGES

A/2175a 80 Birthday General Svoboda (1975) M/Sheet imperf: 10kcs 250kcs			2.50
A/2332-3a Praga 78/Titian Sheet	20.00	1.60	1.60

The new official POFIS supplement in booklet form was issued in June at a price of 9.00Kcs. It lists all issues from 1976 (2182) to end of 1977 (2291) illustrated in multi-colour and, at the back, listings of all price changes for stamps from No 1 to 2175a. All FDC's are also priced and all quantities issued are shown. Published by Vydala Postovni filatelisticka sluzba (POFIS) Praha 1, Prikopy 13, Czechoslovakia. There are listed 31 towns where POFIS has shops, so members with correspondents in the CSSR should have no trouble in obtaining a copy.

I have been informed that the Kcs 3 value stamp in the Mountain Rescue Service set (more commonly known as 'Mountain Wild Flowers') appears in TWO different perforations - $11\frac{3}{4}$ being normal, and due to technical problems with the original perforator - $13\frac{3}{4}$. The latter are few in numbers which is expected to influence catalogue ratings.

AJK

GERMAN FIELD POST POSTMARKS used in the PROTEKTORAT and SLOVAKIA

by E. G. Taylor

All collectors of Czechoslovak postal history will be familiar with the popular "Deutsche Dienstpost" postmarks that appear on many field post and service covers that originated in the Bohemia - Moravia Protectorate. However, a postmark type that is of greater scarcity and interest is the German military postmark used by the German Field Post Offices attached to tactical and strategical formations of the 'Wehrmacht.'

The single ring postmark has the word "FELDPOST" above and the Nazi Eagle below with a code number (Kenn-nummer) and date bridging the centre. These marks saw service in many theatres of war, the most common being from Russia, Poland and France. Because of the special "Dienstpost" arrangements in the Protectorate, the postmarks of that service were used extensively when a military formation was stationed or passing through that territory. When, however, a unit crossed into Slovakia the "FELDPOST" type was always used. Thus for the period 1939 to late 1944 saw but few marks used in Czechoslovakia.

After the debacle of Autumn 1944 with the loss of Silesia and Hungary, a large portion of German Army Group South retreated into the Czech lands and regrouped around the towns of Zilina and Ostrava with rearguard actions planned to delay the advancing Russians at the Dukla Pass, Kosice and Banska Bystrica.

The front was stabilised and plans were made for an orderly withdrawal in stages to Bohemia to the south east of Prague around the town of Nemecky Brod (now Havilickuv Brod). Meanwhile in Austria at the town of Winkel, about 13 km. west of Horn, the framework of a new German 24th Army was being formed to receive the retreating Bohemian Group and the remnants of the Homeland Armies push southwards from the Bavarian uplands, to form the heroic Nazi dream of the "Festung Alpen" (the Alpine Fastness) where the One Thousand Reich would live on.

Events overtook this grandiose plan, with Hitler dead, the Reich capitulated and thus history decreed that the area around Nemecky Brod became the site of the greatest surrender of men and material of all times.



Postmark of 10th Pz. Gren. Division
Code No 151
used at Opava (Troppau) from
13. 3. 1945 to 25. 3. 1945
then moved to Olomouc.

Code No	Affiliation	Location and date
104	19 Panzer Division	From Poland 3/45 - 4/45 Opava (Troppau) & Ostrava (Mähr. Ostrau) late 4/45 Brno (Brünn) 5/45 Nemecky Brod (Deutsch. Brod)
106	FpA516zbv beim A.P.M. Ost	4/45 - 5/45 Praha (Prag)
114	3 Gebirgs Division	From Poland Early 2/45 Slovakia 2/45 - 4/45 Ostrava(Mähr. Ostrau)& Olomouc (Olmütz) 5/45 Nemecky Brod (Deutsch. Brod)

GERMAN FIELD POST POSTMARKS c'td

Code No	Affiliation	Location and date
116	100 Jäger Division	From Hungary 1/45 Opava (Troppau) 2/45 Krnov(Jägerndorf)
133	Zw FpA551	To Germany 10/44 Košice(Kaschau) 11/44 Poprad 12/44 - 1/45 Zillina (Sillein) 2/45 - 5/45 Prahá area
139	Zw FpA793 A.O.K.8.	1/45 - 5/45 České Budějovice (Böhm - Budweis)
147	FpA781	1/45 - 5/45 České Budějovice (Böhm - Budweis)
148	FpA767	12/44 - 5/45 Banska Bystrica (Neusohl)
151	10 Panzer Granadier Division	From Poland 2/45 - 3/45 Opava(Troppau) & Olomouc(Olmütz) 5/45 Nemecky Brod (Deutsch.Brod)
166	25 Panzer Division	From Stettin 4/45 Praha To Austria 5/45 České Budějovice (Böhm.Budweis)
171	715 Infanterie Division	2/45 Wodzislaw (Loslau) 3/45 Ostrava (Mähr. Ostrau) 4/45 Tabor 5/45 Pisek
184	24 Panzer Division	From Hungary 7/44 - 9/44 Dukla Pass To Hungary 1/45 Olomouc (Olmütz) To East Prussia
185	154 Feld-Ausbildungs Division	1/45 Formed in Slovakia 4/45 Děčín(Teschen), Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau) Opava(Troppau) & Olomouc(Olmütz) 5/45 Mor.Trebova(Mähr.Trübau)
188	78 Volks-Sturm Division	From Poland 3/45 Krnov(Jägerndorf) 4/45 Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau) & Nový Jicin 5/45 Nemecky Brod(Deutsch.Brod)
197	Reichsgrenadier Division-Hoch-und- Deutschmeister	From Austria 4/45 - 5/45 Frymburk(Friedberg)
213	544 Volks-Grenadier Division	5/45 Bohemia
228	FpA635 beim APM8 des AOK 8	5/45 České Budějovice (Böhm.Budweis)
232	Zw FpA908	12/44 - 1/45 Zvolen(Altschl) 2/45 - 5/45 Tabor
248	Zw FpA789	1/45 - 5/45 Bratislava area
253	76 Infanterie Division	From Hungary 3/45 Banska Bystrica 4/45 Uherske Hradiste & Olomouc(Olmütz)
256	1 Kosaken Kavallerie Division	From Hungary 4/45 - 5/45 Zlata Koruna(Goldenkron) Captured by British 8th Arm.Division
263	17 Panzer Division	From Germany 4/45 Krnov(Jägerndorf) 5/45 Nemecky Brod(Deutsch.Brod)
272	253 Infanterie Division	From Poland 4/45 Děčín(Teschen) & Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau) 5/45 Nemecky Brod

GERMAN FIELD POST POSTMARKS c'td

Code No	Affiliation	Location and date
280	FpA 793	From Poland
	APM8 des AOK8	1/45 - 5/45 České Budějovice(Böhm. Budweis)
287	18 Panzer Division	10/40 - 3/41 Praha(Prag)
287	Divisions StabzbV603	4/45 - 5/45 Pisek
294	6 Panzer Division	From Poland
		11/44 Hradec Kralove(Königgratz)
		To Hungary
		From Austria
		4/45 - 5/45 Brno(Bränn)
299	15 Flak Division	From Hungary
		4/45 - 5/45 Bratislava
		To Austria
305	254 Infanterie Division	From Poland
		4/45 Olomouc(Olmütz)
		5/45 Nemecky Brod(Deutsch.Brod)
314	FpA634 beim Pz. AOK1	5/45 Vrbno(Würbenthal)
326	16 Panzer Division	From Poland
		3/45 Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau)
		4/45 Brno(Bränn) & Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau)
		To Austria
332	XI Armee Korps	From Poland
		10/44 - 1/45 Slovakia
		2/45 - 5/45 Krnov(Jägerndorf)
336	Zw FpA634	5/45 Bruntal(Freudenthal)
337	15 Volks Grenadier Division	From Hungary
		1/45 Zvolen(Altsohl)
		3/45 Považská Bystrica & Zilinia(Sillein)
		4/45 Zlin & Prostějov(Prossnitz)
		5/45 Nemecky Brod(Deutsch.Brod)
340	4 Gebirgs Division	From Poland(West Beskiden)
		1/45 High Tatra(Tatr.Kotlina)
		2/45 Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau)
		5/45 Olomouc(Olmütz)
		Surrendered at Svitavy(Zwittau)
344	FpA908	12/44 - 1/45 Zvolen(Altsohl)
		2/45 - 5/45 Tabor
354	68 Infanterie Division	From Poland
		3/45 Ostrava(Mähr.Ostrau)
		4/45 - 5/45 Krnov(Jägerndorf)
358	Zw FpA271	3/45 Tapolcany, Pistyan, Myava & Wesseli
	271 Infanterie Div	4/45 Prostějov(Prossnitz)
359	271 Infanterie Div	3/45 Tapolcany
		4/45 Prostějov(Prossnitz)
378	FpA789 Militar Befehlshaber in der Slowakei	1/45 - 5/45 Bratislava
398	Panzerkorps "Feldherrnhalle" (IVPzK)	From Hungary
		1/45 Gran Bridgehead
401	FpA492	4/45 Brutál(Freudenthal)
433	APM z AOK1 des PzAOK1	From Poland
	11 Panzer Division	5/44 Praha(Prag)
		To France
436	Panzer Division "Feldherrnhalle"	From Hungary
		3/45 - 5/45 Tyrnaubei Bränn

to be continued.....

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GERMAN FIELD POSTMARKS - Abbreviations and Translation

AOK = Armee Ober Kommander = Army H.Q
 APM = Armee Post Meister = Army Post Master
 Armee = Army
 Ausbildungs = Training
 Befehlshaber = Commander
 beim = by
 Fallschirmjäger = Parachute troop
 Flak = Anti-aircraft
 FpA = Feldpostamt = Field Post Office
 FpLST = Frontpostleitstelle = Front Forwarding Post Office
 Gebirgs = Mountain
 Heersgruppe = Army Group
 Jäger = Hunter (Light)
 Korps = Corps
 Kosaken = Cossack
 Militar = Military
 Ost = East
 Pz = Panzer = Armour
 Ski-Jäger = Ski troop
 Stab = Staff (frame of new division)
 Sturm = Storm
 Sud = South
 Volks = Peoples
 zbV = zu besonderer Verwendung = for special employment
 zw = Zweig = Branch (twig)
 EGT.

THE HEYDRICH ISSUE of 1943 by Colin Spong FRPSL

Issued to commemorate the 1st Anniversary of the assassination of Reinard Tristan Eugen Heydrich by Czech resistance fighters; this single stamp in black and shining white reproduces the death mask of Heydrich made by Professor F. Rotter, the sinister half-smile, and the two strokes of grey lightning symbols of the SS, epitomize in a small space the spirit of terror and the dire character of the 'killer' and his organisation.

Printed by photogravure on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 100 stamps, it was issued on May 25, 1943. Comb perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$. There are two plate varieties - (1) exists in the form of an "egg" on top of Heydrich's head on stamps Nos. 9, 19, 29 and 39. (2) the year of death 1942 instead is shown as 1842. In "Stamp Collecting" for November 1945, Charles Jennings writes in a letter that he had at one time possessed a used copy showing a line of colour extending from the left ear to the SS symbol.

Heydrich succeeded von Neurath as Protector, he was a hard-line German Nazi Official, Head of Security Police, and chief deputy to Schutzstaffel Heinrich Himmler. The assassination was carried out by Sergeants Jan Kubis and Josef Gabčík. Considered simply as a stamp it is a fine production, but is also self-incriminating, and signifies sudden death. It was also issued in a miniature sheet, which was numbered and given to officials attending the funeral by invitation. These were printed on yellow paper, but had no postal value. This issue was demonetized: September 30, 1943.

Illustration taken from 'Bohemia Moravia Slovakia published by Czechoslovak PS of America. 1958.



A—"egg" on top of head

INTERCOSMOS: First Anniversary of the Joint Flight USSR-CSSR

Five stamps (0,30; 0,60; 1,60; 2,00; 4,00 Kcs) and one Miniature Sheet (10,00 Kcs) were issued on 2 March 1979 to commemorate the first joint flight USSR-CSSR.

The stamps were designed by Vladimir Kovarik and engraved by engravers: J. Mracek, M. Ondracek and L. Jirka.

Printed in TUS by rotary recess print combined with three colour photo-gravure in sheets of 25 each. Size: 49 x 30 mm.

The Miniature Sheet is recess print from flat plates in five colours. Size of the picture: 39 x 54 mm.

Three First Day Covers were issued concurrently.

Out of all values mentioned the stamp of 2,00 Kcs was issued in quantity of 500 thousand only and the Miniature Sheet in quantity of 532 thousand (small portion imperforate).

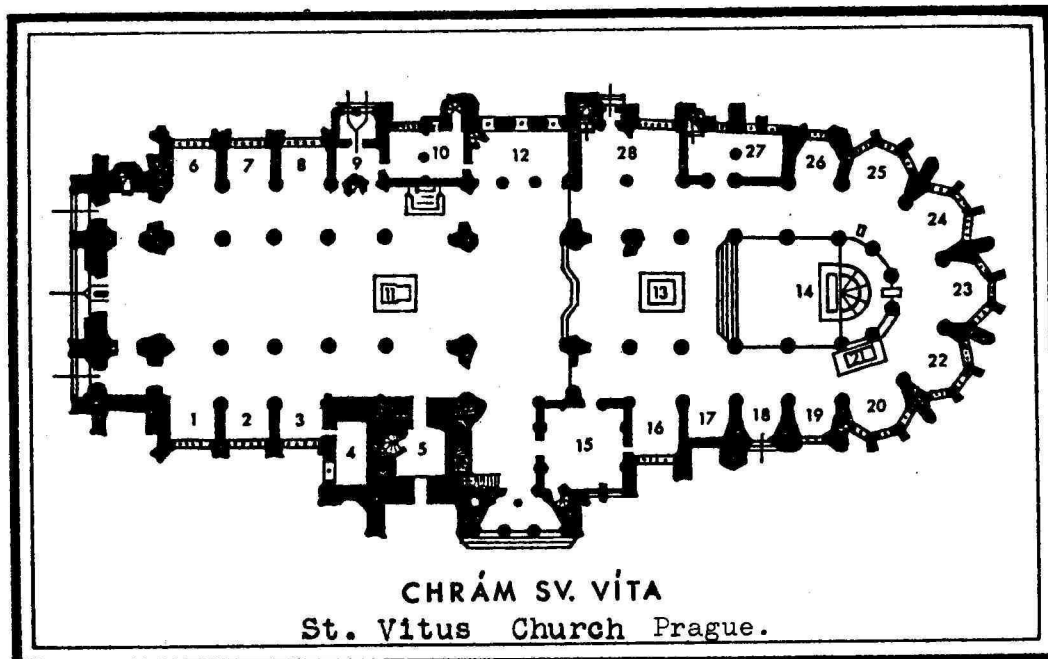


The remaining values were issued in quantities ranging from 4 million to 8 million each.



SAINT VITUS CATHEDRAL by Yvonne King and Colin Spong

The two stamps issued by the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia to mark the 500 years of St Vitus Cathedral in Prague; (the last issue for 1944) may be seen as a prelude to the final liberation of the City of Prague on May 15, 1945 by the Russian Army. The two values of 1.50k and 2.50k were printed



EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN OF ST. VITUS' CATHEDRAL

from Steel engraved
jects on unwater -
perforated 12½.

The Cathedral of
erected on the
rotunda, and was
Bohemian King John
1344. Until the
building operations

of the French Architect, Matthew of Arras under the supervision of King Charles 1V, and later by Peter and Jan Parler until 1416. During the Hussite Wars building operations came to a standstill and afterwards, when once again re-started, only slow progress was made. The Cathedral was not completed until 1929.

With its past interwoven into Czech history, St Vitus is the "Westminster Abbey" of Bohemia. In the Chapel of the Holy Relics (No 13 on the plan) are the tombs of the former Czech Kings'. Here are kept the Bohemian Crown Jewels in the raised coffer of the Coronation Chamber, (only rarely shown to the public.) Steps lead to it from St Vaclav Chapel (No 15 on the plan). The tradition of the Sacred Crown of Bohemia was started with Charles 1V, who ordered the crown, sceptre and orb made in 1346, prior to that time Czech King's had had their crowns made to order!

But Charles 1V wanted his Crown for all time, to be an object of veneration for the Czech people. So he had placed in the sapphire cross on top of the crown a thorn said to have come from Christ's own Crown of Thorns. Charles' crown was made of pure gold and enormous precious stones. The sapphires were and still are amongst the largest in the world.

Dedicating his new crown to St Vaclav, the Emperor placed it on the skull of the saint preserved in the chapel. The crown could only be taken from its holy place at the coronation of a new king.

At first, the jewels were kept in a vault near St Vaclav's tomb. They were taken to the Royal Castle of Karlstein during the Hussite Wars. From that
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- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Chapel of St. Ludmilla | 17 Chapel of the Holy Cross |
| 2 Chapel still undedicated | 18 Royal oratory |
| 3 Thun family chapel | 19 Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen |
| 4 Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre | 20 St. Jan Nepomuk (Vlašim) chapel |
| 5 Interior of the main tower | 21 Tomb of St. Jan Nepomuk |
| 6, 7, 8 Undedicated chapels | 22 Sternberg chapel |
| 9 Former Cathedral treasure chamber | 23 Chapel of the Virgin Mary |
| 10 New sacristy | 24 Chapel of St. John the Baptist |
| 11 Tomb of St. Adalbert | 25 Chapel of the Archbishop |
| 12 Wohlmut's choir | 26 St. Anne's (Nostitz family) chapel |
| 13 Royal mausoleum | 27 Old sacristy |
| 14 High altar | 28 St. Sigmund's chapel |
| 15 St. Václav's chapel | |
| 16 St. Andrew's (Martinic family) chapel | |

plates of 100 sub -
marked paper and
Without plate nos.

Saint Vitus is
site of an earlier
founded by the
of Luxembourg in
year 1352 the
were in the hands

time on , the jewels led a nomadic life from Prague to the provincial cities and back, as the Czechs tried to keep them from enemy hands. During the Thirty Years War, they got as far away from home as Ceske Budejovice. But the Hapsburg Emperor, Ferdinand 11, after his coronation in 1646, succeeded in taking them to Vienna and it took 150 years of begging before they were returned to Prague. During the Nazi Occupation, the crown was bricked up in the former bread oven in the Sobeslav wing of the Old Royal Palace, guarded by seven keys, four for the Reichsprotector, and three for the President of the Republic.

An ancient legend warned that any imposter who dared to place the crown on his head would die. Hitler Gaulieter, Reinhard Heydrich scoffed at supersition. On a tourist visit to the Castle, he demanded the crown and placed it upon his head gloatingly, and also on the heads of his two sons as well..... several weeks later, Heydrich was killed by a Czech patriot who had been flown in from London, England, and parachuted into his country. Soon after one son died from a kick from a horse; the other fell on the eastern front!

The other piece of great value in the jewel case is a huge gold Russian Cross, a gift from the father of the wife of Premysl Otaker II (1253-1278), for their wedding. One of the great Czech King's Premysl Otaker extended Czech power as far as the Baltic by leading a crusade against the Prussians and founding Konigsberg. From a seemingly auspicious beginning the cross was doomed to become involved in plots against the throne and rebel intrigues, until in 1938 when Hitler occupied Czechoslovakia, it was borne off to Berlin. The Russians returned the Cross to Prague at the end of the war.

Contemporary art can be seen in the stained glass window of 'The Last Judgement' by Max Svabinsky; and 'The Creation' by Frantisek Kysela. On the west wall are two busts of the last two architects - Josef Mocker and Kamil Hilbert, the work of sculptor Vclav Sucharda (1929) whilst the beautiful bronze doors with their pictures of the history of the building of the Cathedral at the main entrance are the fine work of V.H.Brunner and Otaker Spaniel (1924-1929).

Reference: Fodor's Guide to Czechoslovakia, 1975.

We are indebted to Mrs Jane Sterba, President of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of America for kindly supplying the illustration.

THOMAS G. MASARYK OFFICIAL ESSAYS by Joseph J. Jiranek

We are now able to supply a photograph of these essays of President Thomas G Masaryk values (50, 1200 and 2000 Haleru.) The article appeared in Czechout No 11 Edition 2/78. (with acknowledgement of STAMPS May 17, 1958.)



BOOK REVIEWS

Overprints of the Liberation Territory of the Republic of Czechoslovakia 1939-1945 by Juan Santaegenia, Barcelona 1978, published privately by the author in Spanish.

I have taken the opportunity to include this book reviewed by our member Henry Hahn for our sister society's bulletin "Czechoslovak Specialist" as many of our members may not have seen this review, with acknowledgement to the 'Czechoslovak Specialist'.

Colin Spong.

Visitors to PRAGA 78 were most pleasantly surprised by the appearance of Juan Santaegenia's large book among the philatelic literature exhibits. It won a well deserved silver.

The book, currently in its corrected and revised form (a further revised edition is in progress) is not a catalogue, but rather a compendium of all of the controversial, so called "1945 Revolueni" overprints on the various issues in use on liberated Czechoslovak territories.

The "no frills" (Second) edition of August, 1978 is reproduced by photo-copying, paper bound (stapled) and contains 220 pages of well illustrated text. Though primarily in Spanish and French (with large portions also in German and English), American readers should find little difficulty under-standing the catalogue portions. The author used the Yvert & Tellier Catalogue for identification of the stamps bearing the overprint - but this causes little difficulty since the stamps are also described and in many instances illustrated. Some of the overprints illustrated are photo-reproductions of the original, while some are merely drawings. Unfortunately, the illustrations do not indicate whether they are one or the other.

Varieties are not described; the book is limited to the basic overprints. Each overprint is assigned a number - some localities had one, others several overprint designs. Each such number bears a sub-number separated by a slash), identifying different sets of stamps overprinted or overprint colours. As an aid in identification, a section of the book is devoted to an alphabetical listing of the first letter of the text appearing on the overprint, or number. A design indentifer section is also included.

"Phantasy" overprints and those not as yet identified are also included, as are overprinted stationery.

It is much to the author's credit that he does not concern himself with such things as price, point count, or rarity. He wastes not one word on the subject of "legitimacy", or 'justification', as done ad nauseum by some philatelic writers dealing with other controversial items. He wastes not a word on politics.

To those of us who collect these overprints, the book will be indispensable. To those who don't collect the "1945 Revolueni" overprints, but collect the 1918 ones, remember that old frauds are no better then newer ones, though they do seem to age gracefully. Remember that the Chust overprint (Santaegenia 184/1-8) is now listed in the "Specialised Catalogue of Czechoslovak Postage Stamps" Praga 78, and hence has a "degree of pedigree" - not to speak of the price tag. Others might well follow, as new discoveries are made.

The author is to be congratulated and thanked for bringing us a lasting work in this less then popular area of our hobby. His painstaking and successful effort will inspire us to seek new challenges that add to the vitality of stamp collecting.

Henry Hahn.

Of interest to our readers Senor Santaegenia was greatly assisted in his work by our Vice Chairman Cyril Wackett, who supplied and corrected the research with information from his extensive collection.

C.S.

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