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EDITORIAL

In this issue we include two reports covering the recent International at Paris and the National Congress of the British Philatelic Federation hosted by the Southampton & District Philatelic Society. At both of these events this Society was represented and we trust that members will find these reports both interesting and stimulating. I am sure the Hon. Secretary will be pleased to loan his copy of the Congress Handbook for anyone who would like to read some of the papers more fully.

Colin Spong Editor

SOCIETY MEETING on SATURDAY JUNE 26 at HIGHCLIFFE

The Chairman, Mrs Kay Goodman welcomed 20 members and several visitors to her home, apologies were received from 6 members, and the minutes of the previous meeting of March 27, were confirmed and signed.

Membership Approval was given to the following applications received since the last meeting: Mr C.H.Stirton (London), Mr J.J.Janecka (USA) and Mr C.Chesloe (USA). Mr Stirton was welcomed to his first meeting.

Monografie's It was reported that Monografie No 2 on "Bibliography of Philatelic Literature" should be available by the end of August. It was agreed to print 200 copies and the price to members would be £2.50 post free, and outside the Society £3.50 plus postage. Mr George Connolly was thanked for producing this most useful addition to society publications.

Mr Roy Dehn stated that he was about half way through his preparation on the "1919 Overprints" and hoped that it might be possible to publish this in six months time. Mr Ernst Gorge said that he would consider publishing a Monografie on the 'Masaryk Issue' with Mr Dehn, but that this would probably be a long term project.

<u>Library</u> Mrs Yvonne Gren mentioned the Society only possessed Czech Monografie 2 and 3 in the Library, it was agreed that Numbers 1, 13 and 14 should be purchased.

<u>Publicity</u> Mr Alec Page said that he hoped to include a history of the Society in a future issue of "STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY NEWS". Mr Colin Smith had nothing to report except that the philatelic press had been informed of our meetings.

<u>Packets</u> Mr Colin Smith stated as previously reported the Exchange Packet would recommence in the Autumn. The Commission would remain at 10% as before, and only Czech material would be distributed.

Czechout 3.82

SOCIETY MEETING c'td

George Pearson Trophy Reg Hounsell and Brian Parker would go ahead along the lines of the majority views.

Any Other Business Mrs Goodman reported that she had been approached by the British Aerophilatelic Federation to give a display at their exhibition at the Royal Air Force Museum, Hendon, on 23/24 October 1982. She had suggested that the Society should give A DISPLAY and this was agreed, the Society to be allocated four frames.

It was reported that the Exhibition planned to take place at Brno, CSR in 1983 had been postponed for financial reasons, and was now expected to take place in 1984. As previously agreed a POSTAL AUCTION would be held in the autumn and material should be sent to Mr Cyril Wackett, c/o Zivnostenska Banka, 104-106 Leadenhall Street LONDON EC3 4AA by September 26, 1982. The Auction List would be despatched with the notification of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (November 13) early October.

Display by Mr Roy Dehn FRPSL

The rest of the afternoon was given over to an excellent display on the early "Posta Ceskoslovenska Overprints" this issue was seen in depth and covered plating studies from sheets of a number of values, covers demonstrating its usage, and examples of some of the forgeries. The Chairman thanked him for coming down from Norwich for this meeting and for his illuminating talk and display, and we should all await his Monografie with interest.

The meeting terminated at 6.pm with a sincere vote of thanks to Mr & Mrs Goodman for their hospitality, and a large number of the members present with their guests then enjoyed a Dinner at a nearby restaurant in Christchurch.

Robert Kingsley Hon. Secretary

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

In the April issue of the STAMP LOVER journal of the National Philatelic Society
Mr Alec Page had contributed an article on 'JIRI SVENGSBIR.' Whilst Jane Sterba's
'Good King Wencelas - Svaty Vaclav' had drawn a number of replies in STAMP COLLECTING.
Peter Ibbotson's column EUROPAGE in STAMP COLLECTING continues to report czech news
June 10 issue mentions an interesting cancellation back in 1912 - an fdc sent from
the 6th Conference of the All Russian Social Democratic Party held in Prague to
Paris to Vl. Oulianoff (or Ulyanov) then in exile, and later to become known as
Lenin! The June 24 issue describes the latest stamp commemorating Lidice. The
site is now indicated by the international rose-garden, and the new Lidice is a little
to the north of the former village.

SUPERB SOUTHAMPTON. by W. Alec Page FRPSL

The 64th Congress of the British Philatelic Federation took place at La Sainte Union College Southampton, from 20th to 23rd July 1982. Hosted by the Southampton & District Philatelic Society, coinciding with their own Golden Jubilee celebrations, this year's Congress was chaired by Mr R.H.Garland, the BPF Treasurer.

The majority of delegates and visitors began to arrive late on Monday afternoon (19) and were immediately impressed by the very pleasant surroundings and the college accommodation. The Congress office staffed by members of the host society rendered a sterling service and assisted the delegates and visitors, backed up with a good supply of postcards, books of local interest for sale. The special covers produced in four different colours — one for each day of Congress — were available for posting to gain the special handstamp. Both cover and handstamp were designed by local collector Bob Payne. Additionally a special postcard, drawn by John Hunt, depicting the former Southampton Head Post Office, and specially prepared stamp booklets in similar design to the cover were also on sale.

The local Post Office Philatelic Section were also in attendance daily with a vast variety of stamps and associated philatelic material.

Although the formal opening was not scheduled until the Tuesday morning (20), the first event of the week took place on Monday evening, with a talk and exhibition by the City Archivist.

The formal opening of Congress took place on Tuesday morning and was carried out by Mr L.W.Gilbert, Head Postmaster of Southampton, who after a welcome to delegates and visitors, congratulated the host society on attaining their Golden Jubilee. He then went on to speak of the local Post Office involvement in promoting the various postal services, and their association with collectors. Particular emphasis is being given to the young, with a highly successful competition last year, to be repeated this year in the Autumn.

The investiture of the Chairman of Congress, Mr R.H.Garland, by Mr Alan K.Bosworth, Chairman of the British Philatelic Federation, was followed by the approval by the meeting of the loyal greeting message to Her Majesty the Queen. No longer in the form of a telegram, but by the modern Post Office Intelpost system, with the delivery to Buckingham Palace of a facsimile of the actual prepared message, complete with the signature of the Congress Chairman. It is thought that this is the first time that a message has been sent to Her Majesty in this form.

After a brief silence in memory of the 15 members, including two distinguished philatelists, and the usual announcements brought to an end the first business session.

The second part of the morning was devoted to the presentation and discussion of the first of the three Congress Papers — "Stamp Collecting and Other Hobbies" by a local member Mr Bryan Hunt. Although not considered controversial, it brought in all eleven speakers to the rostrum. Supported firstly by Mr Joe Sanders, long standing local dealer, who was organising secretary of a Southampton Congress thirty years ago, and ably backed by Mr W.R.Hart (BPF Council) the discussions were both varied and thought provoking. One speaker was brave enough to give his own definition of the difference between a stamp collector and a philatelist — "It is the stamp collector who collects stamps and the philatelist who helps the collector".

Whilst the meeting was in progress the visitors were able to enjoy a boat trip on the Solent and had the opportunity of viewing the ships "QE2" and "Canberra" undergoing refurbishment following their return from the Falkland Islands. With the afternoon free both delegates and visitors were able to go on a bus tour of the City.

Early evening was the occasion for the delegates and visitors to attend a civic reception at the Art Gallery, hosted by the Right Worshipful The Mayor of Southampton, Councillor Mrs B.Barfoot J.P.

SUPERB SOUTHAMPTON c'td

The final event of the day was a discussion, chaired by Mr Bernard Lucas FRPSL., "AT SOCIETY LEVEL", designed to get together those delegates who were involved in Society affairs.

The second business session opened on Wednesday with the presentation of the second paper, "Todays Children - Tomorrow's Philatelist", by Mrs Franceska Rapkin FRPSL. In introducing the paper Mrs Rapkin highlighted the work already being done to help and encourage the young collector, particularly that of the BPF Melville Committee. She also spoke of the help and support that the Committee was receiving from the Post Office.

In supporting the paper's adoption, Mr Gerald Davis FRPSL, and Mrs Kay Goodman FRPSL., set the scene for a dozen or so speakers. The call was for one of action at grass roots level, to aid, encourage, and educate the young collector. Each speaker brought out individual ideas on how this could be achieved including the suggested closer involvement with the Scout, Guide and Duke of Edinburgh Award Organisations, together with the Broadcasting media.

The latter part of the morning was devoted to discussions on BPF matters, and was almost totally devoted to a very informative discourse from BPF President, Mr R.A.G.Lee, RDP., FRPSL., on the Philatelic Foundation, prompted by a series of prior questions tabled by Mr M.Hewlett, BA., FRPSL., of Bath Philatelic Society.

One other short discussion took place on the possible availability of detailed information on the organisation and finances of previous Congresses as an aid to would be future hosting societies. The discussions arose from a request from Mr Alex Shepherd, of the Scottish Association, and it was confirmed by Mr Jack Simmonds, Chairman of BPF Congress Committee that information was already in being on this matter and that it would be brought up to date.

The social events of the day were many and varied. For those not involved in the business of the morning there was a talk on English Vineyards by Mr Heath(husband of S'ton PS Hon. Secretary), whilst after lunch both delegates and visitors were able to visit the Marwell Wildlife Park. The evening choice of entertainment was between a visit to The Theatre Royal, Winchester for Agatha Christie's "The Hollow" or a meeting of the Hong Kong Study Circle, where Mr Reg Kirk displayed his fine study of the Maritime Mail of the P & O Line, and a "Hidden Treasure" event. The latter meeting brought out some interesting items including a virtually complete postal coverage of the recent Falkland Islands actions. In all a very full days activities for both delegates and visitors alike.

The third and final paper of the programme "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" by Mr Kenneth Chapman FRPSL., opened the morning session on Thursday. Mr Chapman who had presented a paper at the previous Southampton Congress in 1952, prefaced his opening remarks by anticipating that the members and delegates "would settle the future of philately in the next twenty minutes", which remarks undoubtably set the pattern for the future discussions.

The adoption of the paper was moved by Mr G.Manton, with a brief resume of the five main points brought out in the paper. He was supported by Miss M.Humble with an eloquent discourse of appreciation to Mr Chapman on his achievements and lifelong dedication to organised philately, and also the passing on of that vast amount of knowledge for the benefit of collectors as a whole.

The nine speakers that followed dealt in the main with the "Tomorrow" of the paper with varied opinions as to what shape the hobby would take, with the rapid automation of postal systems, involvement of computor technology, and even the possible demise of the adhesive postage stamp as we know it (that is apart from those territories whose main source of national revenue is derived from the multi-issues of highly coloured labels.) It was however agreed that the future would see much more prominence in the postal history spect, and a still greater development of thematic collecting.

SUPERB SOUTHAMPTON c'td

As far as the development of postal history is concerned the BPF President disclosed that discussions had already recently taken place at International level to break down the competitive class of Postal History, by segregating the 'postmark' aspect into a seperate class.

The second morning session was devoted to an Aerophilatelic Symposium presented by members of the British Aerophilatelic Federation, with the use of colour slides, a method already mentioned in Mr Bryan Hunt's paper on Tuesday. In all four speakers gave short talks accompanying the projected slides; aimed at the non-aerophilatelist the subjects covered were British Airmails 1909-1912 (Mr D.D.Edwards), The Zepplin (Mr Ian Nutley), The Concorde (Mr Brian Asquith), and British Airmails WW1 and After (Mr Alex Newall). These small and interesting talks and displays gave an excellent insight into some of the aspects of this important section of our hobby.

During the morning business sessions, non-involved visitors were able to go on a walking tour of medieval Southampton. With a free afternoon all were able to go on a coach tour to Mottisfont Abbey, originally a 12c Augustinian Priory, or visit the Post Office Western District Sorting Complex.

In the evening there was a choice of entertainment, with a meeting of the Rhodesian Study Circle, with a display by Mr Colin Donaldson of Southern Rhodesia material, or a film show with films of both philatelic and local interest.

At the start of the Friday, and final business session the presentation of one of the BPF Award of Merit certificates took place when Mrs K.F.Goodman, Chairman of the Awards Committee made the presentation to Mr E.F.Smith of the Bath PS.

The Sixth Annual General Meeting of the British Philatelic Federation Ltd took place at 10.am. under the chairmanship of the President of the BPF, Mr R.A.G.Lee. After the statutory business and the acceptance of the Accounts, the meeting approved the re-appointment of the Auditor, Mr Leslie S.Wheeler FCA.

The Chairman thanked the retiring Councillors for their services and in particular Mr J.C.Simmonds, Chairman of Congress Committee, for all his hard work over the years who received a standing ovation from the meeting. The meeting then approved the re-election of four retiring Councillors, Mrs F.Rapkin, Mr.L.V.Rapkin, (Collector), and Mr W.R.Hart and Mr Angus Parker (Business).

The formal meeting was then closed and after a short break an Ordinary General Meeting was convened for the purpose of dealing with the following business.

To consider as Special Business, and if thought fit, to pass as an Ordinary Resolution: "That in Rule 9 of the Constitution of the Board of Election of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, now reading 'These Rules shall remain in force unless and until they be amended by Special Resolution of the Federation' the word "Council" be substituted for 'Federation.'

This Rule is contained in the Companies Handbook of Council and Committee Procedure and Practice 1978 which has a restricted circulation. After an introduction of the background to the Resolution by Mr L.V.Rapkin, Secretary of the RDP Board, the resolution was carried by the meeting.

Under Any Other Business the Chairman clarified the position regarding two vacancies on the Council of the Federation, stating that two nominations had been received, but too late to comply with Company Statutory requirements. The two nominees would however be co-opted by Council and their election ratified at the next AGM. They are Mrs Susan Johns and Mr Francis Kiddle FRPSL.

To close the final business session details of arrangements for the 65th Congress to be held in Bath from October 3 - 8, 1983 were given by Mr M.Hewlett BA., FRPSL., of the Bath PS who is the Congress Organising Secretary.

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SUPERB SOUTHAMPTON c'td

Friday afternoon was the occasion for the annual ceremony of the signing of the "Roll of Distinguished Philatelists". The two 1982 signatories, Hermann Branz (Germany) and Bernard A.Hennig FRPSL (USA), and from 1981, Colonel James De Voss (USA) were all present to be sponsored by Messrs. G.O.I.Hollings, P.C.Pearson RDP, and R.A.G.Lee RDP. respectively and sign the Roll, in an impressive ceremony. The large gathering included a number of other RDP signatories, were also able to see the presentation of this year's Congress Medel to Mr Bernard Lucas FRPSL, who was presented by his friend and colleague Mr John L.Whiteside FRPSL.

The closing address was given by Squadron Leader C.Jordan of the Bath PS with sincere thanks to both the host Society, Southampton & District PS and the staff of La Sainte Union College for the excellent organisation facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

Member Bill Dawson has completed the first part of his work on the proposed Monografie on Cancellations - many thanks Bill for all your efforts.

We congratulate John Whiteside on his Silver medel at STAMPEX and a Silver Bronze at PHILEXFRANCE.

We thank member Henry Hahn for arranging the exchange of the USA Czechoslovak Specialist this will go into our Library and may be borrowed by members.

Congratulations to member Michael Birks on his recent appointment as Hon. Secretary of the North Western Federation. Michael has been appearing in print on another of his interests - Latin America, we look forward to some Czech item for publication at a future date.

The Hon. Secretary received a welcome letter from NZ member V.J.Kralicek, who kindly informs us that Alex McMillan obtained a Silver Bronze for Field Post at PALMPEX 82. Whilst the Editor had news of Bob Bradford's arrival in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. We shall miss you Bob, but pleased to hear that ARAMCO have a Philatelic Society. Also a airmail from Stig Asklund who was leaving sunny Nairobi for a spot of welcome leave in Sweden.

A non-member Mr H.A.Trul, Waling Dykstrastraat 105, NL 9077 ST VROUWENPAROUCHIE (Fr) is seeking information on various aspects of the Czechoslovak Forces Mail - he has been sent the POLNI POSTA article, but if any members has any further information on these or the Czechoslovak Army with the Russians please contact direct with Mr Trul.

Member Alan Knight would like to solve the following points which are puzzling him which arise in the continuing ARTS series: (please write via Editor so that we can publish any answers.)

1) 1968 3Kcs "Madonna & Child" SG:1794. According to the inscription on the stamp, this altar piece is from the Church of St Jacob in Levoca but I disagree. According to Nagel's Encyclopaedia (5th ed) it is from the gothic parish church of St James and several lines are given to the subject of the great altar theirin. Moreover Burke's CZECHOSLOVAKIA by Batsford Ltd 1976 also pays much detailed information to Master Paul of Levoca and his mighty altar, referring again to ST JAMES!

(EDITOR: James is the english equivelent of the greek word "jacob" and is also found either James or Jacob in the german language.!)

2) 1977 3Kcs "Portrait of a Girl" SG:2378. The inscription states that the painting was executed in 1528. The picture itself has a date painted in the top left-corner and looks very much like 1538 although when viewed under a Hagner Phila-scope it appears like a shortened figure '2'. Any views?

MONOGRAFIE No 2 Bibliography of Philatelic Literature is now available to members from Mr W.A.Page 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 3LG price as per details on page 100 - please make out cheques to W.A.Page.

Q.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS c'td

Member Reg Hounsell has won the North Herts Philatelic Society Postal History trophy with Czech Airmails 1945-50, and his daughter (age 9), won the Junior trophy with a thematic entry including Czech Butterflies & moths issue. Congratulations.

Re our article on Czechoslovak Stamps under the Ultra-Violet light in Czechout 1.82 the review in FILATELIE 10/82 informs us that the address has changed for the.... Union of Czechoslovak Philatelists (SSCF)-should be Celetna 26, 110 00 PRAHA 1. Many thanks for the correction.

PHILEXFRANCE 82 by W. Alec Page FRPSL

Philexfrance 82 held from June 11 - 21 at the spacious CNIT Exhibition Centre at La

Defense on the western outskirts of Paris was perhaps noticeably short of the usualwealth of Czech exhibits. In recent years International exhibitions has become accustomed to a whole host of exhibits both from USA and Europe generally. Paris could only muster six exhibits! Nevertheless it was a fine exhibition well laid out with plenty of space to move about, even at the risk of finding oneself flat on the floor due to uneveness under the carpeted floor. With the carpeted colour scheme, plans and well appointed hanging notices it was relatively simple to find the various sections.

It was pleasing to meet old friends of the Society - Mr & Mrs Sterba from Berwyn USA and Mr Gosta Hedbom from Sweden, who was their Commissioner (also an exhibitor of Czech material), likewise John Whiteside, who gained a Silver Bronze medal for one of his other loves "The Postal History of Danzig to 1920".

Over all I found the Czechoslovak exhibits rather disappointing, in spite of the inclusion of some very fine material.

CESKOSLOVENSKO

TABLO PICARGO MARI-1973

CESKOSLOVENSKO

CESKOSLOVENSKO

CESKOSLOVENSKO

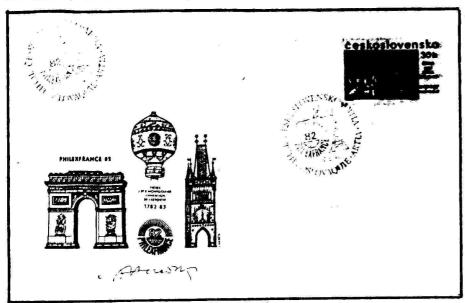
CESKOSLOVENSKO

SERVARA PICARGO MARI-1973

SERVARA PICARGO MARI-1973

SERVARA PICARGO MARI-1973

The top award, a gold medal went to O.Grosz of Czechoslovakia with a display ranging from the 1918 Hradcany's through the 1919 Overprints, Masaryk music, 1st and 2nd Airmails, with a back-up of 1918 Scout issues and Siberia army issues.



Three Vermeil medals went to widely differing collections. S.Sablatura (CSR) with 1919 Overprints including a fair number of covers; the 1st Airmails also with covers and a and a study of the 1937 Bratislava Miniature Sheet including suggested designart work.

J.Kulda (CSR) a post-2nd World War collection 1945 through to 1957, with a wide selection of flaws.

PHILEXFRANCE 82 c'td

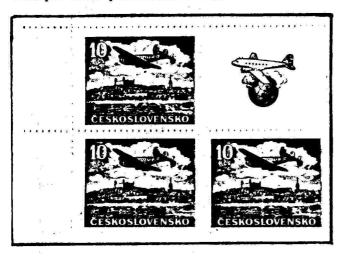
J.Steinmetz (Luxembourg) A detailed study of Postal History of Prague 1565/1919. Whilst gaining a high award this was really more of a postmark study then postal history. V.Samek (Argentine) with a Silver Bronze — spanned the period of 1918 through to the Music Sheets, backed up with "SO" Overprints and Siberian Army.

Our Swedish member Gosta Hedbom's display was in the airmail section, covering the period 1920-1938. This period was well represented with the stamps, proofs, perf varieties, backed up with strength in flown covers. The Silver medal awarded was also supplemented by one of the special prizes.

The trade section of the exhibition was supported by ARTIA and in the early part of the week a visit from J.Hercik the engraver, whose signed souvenir covers were on sale. Likewise the special stamp issued for Philexfrance were also available. Both are illustrated.

AIRMAIL ISSUES 1946-1949 : by Reg Hounsell

In 1946 Czechoslovakia released a series of stamps for airmail use. Two designs were chosen, the smaller one showing Captain F.Novak, a pilot who was killed during the battle for France in 1940, with a Westland Lysander aircraft. The larger stamps show a Douglas DC4 over Bratislava Castle or Charles Bridge, Prague. All stamps were perforated 12½.



Dates issued & Quantities issued.

1.50kcs red 4th July 1946 4.0m.

5.50kcs grey-blue 4th July 1946 5.5m

9.kcs brown 5th April 1947 4.0m

10kcs green 4th July 1946 4.0m

16kcs blue-purple 17th June 1946 3.5m

20kcs blue 4th July 1946 2.5m

24kcs purple-black 4th July 1946 620.300

24kcs grey-blue 12th June 1946 2.5m

50kcs grey-blue 4th July 1946 2.5m

Due to the limited width of paper used on the Stickney rotary press, a special layout of the large format stamps was needed The diagram shows the arrangement used, the spare area having a design of an airplane and globe.

plate layout.

100

stamos





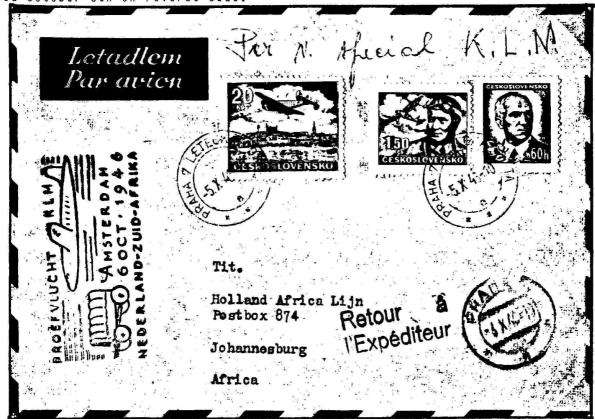
The first stamp issued was the 24kcs grey-blue colour. Although available on 12th June it could only be used on 17th June, to cover airmail and registration charges, for covers sent on the first of the Pan American "Clipper" service from Vienna to New York, via Prague, Brussels, London, Limerick & Gander in Newfoundland. Special envelopes were printed and all covers for the first flight were posted between 12th and 16th. A special 28mm cachet was struck on all covers posted in Prague. At New York registered envelopes received a black oval date stamp of 18th June and a violet cds of New York "Grand Central Station" dated 19th June.

The 16kcs stamp was issued on 17th June and therefore some covers to New York can be found with the stamp on covering normal airmail rate. Mail for Canada and Gander (Newfoundland) was overcarried to New York and backstamped there before being re-directed.

AIRMAIL ISSUES 1946-1949 c'td

From March 1946 Czechoslovakia Statni Airline CSA and other European airlines expanded their international routes back to the pre-war levels. Using pool arrangements, CSA with KLM, ABA, SABENA and LOT, re-opened services from Prague to Amsterdam on May 25th, Brussels & Stockholm on June 13th & 15th respectively, then to Warsaw & Belgrade on August 13th & 15th. Mail was often carried on 'proving flights' of all airlines and occasionally foreign mail was accepted.

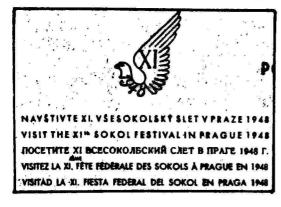
Feasability flight of KLM from Amsterdam to South Africa — the Cover was posted at the Prague airmail letter office (Praha 7) on October 5th 1946 where it was flown to Amsterdam and the special KLM cachet was struck in violet. On arrival in Johannesburg a boxed green cachet was applied in the Holland Africa Line office dated October 8th on reverse side.



On 10th February 1948 a C47 plane belonging to CSA left Prague Ruzne airport, for a feasability flight to Bombay, India, in preparation for regular services. Mail was carried on this flight and specially prepared envelopes were printed which also carried the motif of the 11th SOKOL festival to be held later in the year.

Holland Afrika Lijn Agentschap JOHANNESBURG 8 OCTOBER 1946

It was another 10 years before regular services started!





AIRMAIL ISSUES 1946-1949 c'td

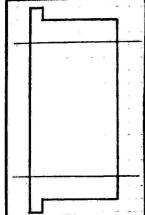
1949 RE-ISSUE: Because of a reduction in airmail rates the 1946 stamps were reissued with new values on 1st September 1949. The old value was obliterated with two bars and the reduced value printed above or below the bars in various colours.

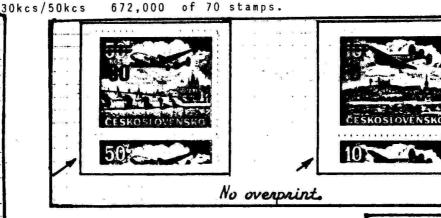
Both normal and overprinted stamps were valid for use until 18th June 1953.



Quantities issued 1kcs/1.50kcs 800,000 3kcs/5.50kcs 970,000 1.0 m 6kcs/9kcs 420,000 8kcs/10kcs 12.50kcs/20kcs672,000 15kcs/24kcs 668,000

The overprint was recess printed so it 5 was necessary to guillotine the large format sheets to fit the press. Only 7.50kcs/16kcs 960,000 the middle 10 rows of stamps were therefore overprinted leaving part of the next rows as selvedge. The selvedge measured approx. 4mm above and 8mm below the block of 70 stamps.





CSA continued to expand services with a Prague-Rome-Athens-Beirut flight on 21st July 1948. Special envelopes were officially printed for the inaugural flight, but it was not until 2nd September that regular services started. For the first flight the modified Praha 7 Letecka posta was used again.

quillotine cuts.

First flight Prague-Beirut from 21st-22nd July 1948. On the reverse can be seen the large Beirut bilingual arrival cachet struck in black.

Regular postage stamps were also valid for airmail use. It is therefore legitimate to have various combinations of the airmail issue together with regular





