Whole No. 37

**CZECHOUT** 

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#### EDITORIAL

With this issue we complete the second and final part of the Commemorative Postmarks of Bohemia & Moravia. A further number of requests for correspondents has been received from Czech collectors from the publicity of this bulletin in "Filatelie"; and we have pleasure in publishing an article by Mr J.P. Krouman, Chairman of the Philatelic Press & Broadcasting Section in Prague.

With all good wishes for a happy and prosperous 1985.

Colin W Spong Chairman & Editor

#### SOCIETY MEETING ON SATURDAY September 1, 1984

The Chairman welcomed 19 members and apologies were received from 7 members. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Saturday June 16, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman, Mr Spong presented Certificates of Awards to Mr A Page and Mr G Connolly for their recent successes in the Competition of Literature Fair organised by the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum in Massachusetts, USA.

#### Membership

Applications from Mr M W Goodwin (Littlehampton), and Mr R Cook (Harpenden) were approved.

#### Display

There being no further business, Mr Cyril Wackett entertained members with his unique and magnificent collection of Liberation Overprints which appeared during the few days after the liberation from the Nazis in Bohemia & Moravia, and the time that the Czech Government was reinstated in May 1945. Also shown were overprints on Hungarian stamps for areas occupied in Slovakia and Carpatho-Ukraine. The Chairman gave a vote of thanks and the meeting closed at 5.30 pm.

D Yvonne Gren Hon. Secretary

#### REQUESTS for Exchange correspondents

Frau Esther Thiele, 9302 Annaberg - Bhz 2, Sudstr 1, Frch 8, DDR would like a correspondent in German she is 58 and confined to a wheelchair, interests for exchange cancellations of theatres, churches, restaurants, palaces & castles.

Jan Ivan, 082 16 Fintice 10, okr Prešov, CSSR - exchange Czech for GB.

Dipl Ing Marian Šulko, Szantóa 21, 841 03 Bratislava, CSSR. Exchange Czech for GB.

Zdenek Knapek, 75364 Belotin 233, CSSR. Exchange Czech stamps & philatelic material for GB & CW Coins.

V.Vančura, SV Čecha 1093, 735 81 Bohumih, CSSR. Exchange m or u Czech stamps for GB/Ireland m or u.

K.Kupkaic, K.Vary 36021, Postbox 268, CSSR. Exchange Czech m or u., for GB (early). Also Letters & FDC.

William Scott, POB 3, 1423 Rondebult, South Africa. Exchange GB(m),South Africa,Australia,New Zealand Poland,Hungary,and Greece for mint or used Czechoslovakia. (via Stamp Magazine.)

Jan Lakota, T.Savcenku 5, 085 01 Bardejov, CSSR. Exchange East Europe for GB & Commonwealth.

#### CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

STAMPS OF HUNGARY: Vol.4 No.5 September 1984 \*
Common Issue of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy 1867: Otto Gabor Schaffling pp.3-5
The Hungarian Airmail Service of 1918. pp.9-15.
The Events of 1919 & their Reflection in the post WW2 Stamps of Hungary: T.R.Lewis pp.16-17
A Second glance at inflation Postal History 1920-26 & After: J.Dixon Nuttall pp.18-19
50th Anniversary of 1st Miniature Sheet from Hungary pp.20-21
Perfins on Cards & Covers: D.Malyon pp.22.

#### CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES c'td

STAMPS OF HUNGARY: Vol.4 No.6 December 1984 \*

Fluorescent Paper used in Hungarian Stamps: J.Dixon Muttall p.6

Field Post in Slovakia: Jozef Teket p.13 Postal Services in 1864: Gabor Voloncs p.14

Postal Censorship in Hungary during WW1: I.Gasda p.17

The 'Merry Reapers': Mike Biggs p.25 What are FP Cancellations? p.26 Sarvar Castle: Gyula Moldovanyi p.29

AUSTRIA: Autumn 1984 No.69 \*

Vienna PO's 1838-45 p.6

Stamps of the 2nd Republic Part 11: J.F.Giblin p.7

German-Austrian Postal Union & Philately: Richard Mergelsberg p.22

People on Austrian Stamps-Addenda 1-13: J.F.Giblin p.37

AUSTRIA: Winter 1984 No.70 \*

Newspaper Stamp Issues 1851-1867: Trnl J.F.Giblin p.8

Stamps of the 2nd Republic Part 12: p.11

Die Dreikaiserecke bei Myslowitz: J.F.Giblin p.25

The 1867 Definitive Issue: Trnl J.F.Giblin (Part 4) p.33 (Also letter from Ferenc Oban - see STAMPS

of Hungary No.5 p.6 on this issue.)

PO's in WW1 Prisoner of War Camps: E.FitzHenry p.41

The People on Austrian Stamps: p.46

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST Vol.XLVI June/Sept/Oct 1984 Nos: 6-8

Drawing Revisions on 1kcs TGM Stamp:Ing J.Karasek & F.Zampada (Trnl J.F.Kovats) p.3 (June)

The 3rd Airmail Issue 1930-39 c'td p.6(June)

New 1st Day Discovered-Postcard (Trnl H.Hahn) p.13 (June)

The Czech National Anthem Sheet: H. Hahn p.34 (Sept)

The 3rd Airmail Issue 1930-39 c'td p.7 (Sept)

Bohemialovakia c'td p.7 (Sept)

The 3rd Airmail Issue 1930-39 c'td p.6 (Oct)

These Bulletins may be borrowed from the Society Library.

#### QUERY CORNER

Eric D Colpitts (Isle of Man Philatelic Federation) showed us some interesting Czech covers and asks whether anyone can give details of the cancellation and markings illustrated.

Došlo dňa



# SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS OF BOHEMIA & MORAVIA by Ernest G Taylor Continued from Czechout 3.84 page 74:

Date	Town	Inscription	Colour				
(b) Rubber	handstamps - E.G.T's	listing					
14.3.39	Mahr-Ostrau	MAHR-OSTRAU DIE STADT DER SCHWARZEN DIAMANTIEN DANK DEM FUHRER TAG DER BEFREIUNG 14.3.1939					
15.3.39	Budweis 1 C.Budejovice 1	DER FUHRER IN BUDWEIS (Duplex p/m)					
15.3.39	Witkowitz in Mahren	WIR DANKEN UNSEREM FUHRER (3 line p/m)	Red				
15.3.39 15.3.39	Iglau Iglau	IGLAU IST FREI	Red Violet				
16.3.39	Freideck	WIR SIND FREI (s/r p/m used until July 39)	Black				
17.3.39	Brunn	DER FUHRER IN BRUNN 17 III 39	Red				
19.3.39 19.3.39 19.3.39	Brunn Brunn Brunn	TAG DES DANKES AN DEN BEFREIER 19 III 39 " " " (s/r p/m) " " (d/r p/m)	Red Red Red				
21.3.39	Olmutz	700 JAHR DEUTSCH UND NUN AUF EWIG OLMUTZ 21 MARZ 1939	Red				
No date	Mahr-Ostrau	WIR SIND FREI (Swastika) (circular p/m)	Lilac				
No date	Witkowitz	WITKOWITZ (EISENWERK)DANK DEM FUHRER (circular p/m)	Red				
No date	Prag	No inscription - Eagle & Swastika	Violet				
No date	Freideck	WIR SIND FREI (cīrcular p/m)	Black				
No date	Oderfurt	WIR SIND FREI (circular p/m)	?				

The Working Group researches on the Meter Advertising Cancels : Preface and Explanations.

This research work is meant to make a start on dealing with the meter advertising cancels used in the former Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia. In Part 'A' it shows the Protectorate cancels, in Part 'B' the Czech cancels which were still being used and in Part 'C' (whenever available) illustrations of the cancels in their original size. To differentiate between these, the day cancels are used which belong to each slogan: in Part 'A' they are bilingual German-Czech or in one language German only, but in Part 'B' they always appear in Czech language. The advertising slogans in Part 'A' are either German or Czech or bilingual: i.e. in both German and Czech together; in Part 'B' the advertisement is always Czech. Some of the one-language-Czech advertising texts listed in Part 'A' had already been manufactured and used in the CSR (see A7 with No. B12 respectively B18), however, most of the cancels were made in the Protectorate and not before. There are also a number of Protectorate special cancellations with only Czech texts. Since the actual date of manufacture is almost impossible to pin down with certainty nowadays, the date stamps will have to serve to differentiate.

The cancellations have been listed in alphabetical order according to their location of issue. In the first line the following are listed (apart from the serial number of the post office) where availabe the distinguishing letter of the date stamp and the abbreviations 'Bm' (band meter), 'C' (combined cancels with 2 different advertising slogans) or 'Sc' (serial cancel). Also given, if available, is the corresponding number according to the Handbook by Dr Schultz, to facilitate comparison.

The following lines contain the translation of the complete cancellation slogan itself. This is followed by the date of use (as found up to this time) and market value in DM, also in the case of serial cancels the number of the corresponding cancels at other locations. Principally only black stamp ink was used but for the cancel No. B 15a green ink was also used.

## SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS OF BOHEMIA & MORAVIA c'td

The meter advertising stamps are rarely a pleasing sight, which is mainly due to faults in the design (e.g. the letters in the Viktoria stamps are too close together), or due to overstrong or weak impressions and to signs of wear in the cancel. A role is also played by the physical properties of the different postal items (uneven content, unsuitable paper) and lack of care in the cancelling of a roll.

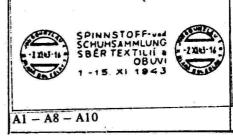
Because of lacking material for comparison, only a part of the protectorate cancels can be evaluated. The market price refers to pieces in average conditions and is meant to give an approximate idea only.

We acknowledge the help of all our collector friends who helped us in a most unselfish manner.

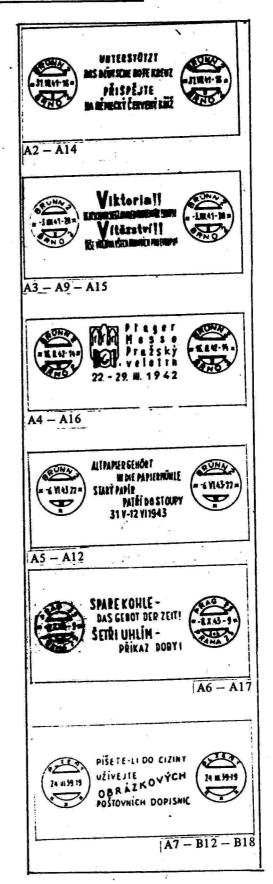
(Translated by Eva Parsons for Germany & Colonies PS bulletin 'Germania'.)

100	. Protectorate cancels	
1	a Brünn 1(-) Bm. Sc. (1 b Brünn 2 (II)	D)
	Woven material and shoe collection	ns
	1 15.XI.1943 1 13.11.43	
	12. – D.M. see No. 8,	10
2	Brünn 2- Brno 2 (II) Bm. Sc. (4 Support the German Red Cross 1731.7.41	1a)
	17 31.7.41 10 DM see No.	14
3	Brünn 2— Brno 2 (II) Bm. Sc. (6) Viktoria! Germany is winning on al fronts for Europe	56) 11
	6.8 20.12.41 5 DM see No. 9,	15
4	Brünn 2— Brno 2 (II) C. Sc. (I. Prague Fair. 22—29.111.19 plus illustration of the Pragushield on the left of the te	42 gue
	II. Prague Fair. 22-29.111.19 plus illustration of the Prag shield on the right of the te each 10DM see No.	ue xt.
5	Brünn 2 (II)  The place for waste paper is the pamill 31 V-12 VI 1943	
	3 9,6,43 DM see No.	12
6	Brünn 2 (II) Bm. Sc. Save coal — the order of the times	(2)
	9.1018.12.43 9. DM see No.	17
7	Brünn 2- Brno 2 (II) C. Sc. (I. If you write abroad use pict postcards	ure
	II. Larger post offices will accessome types of registered itereven after official hours.	ept ms
	15.11.39 DM see No. B12, B	18
8	Jungbunzlan 1 – ML Boleslaw 1 (-)  Bm. Sc. (	-)
	Woven material and shoe collection 1. — 15.XI.1943 2. 11.43	on.
	DM see No. 1,	10

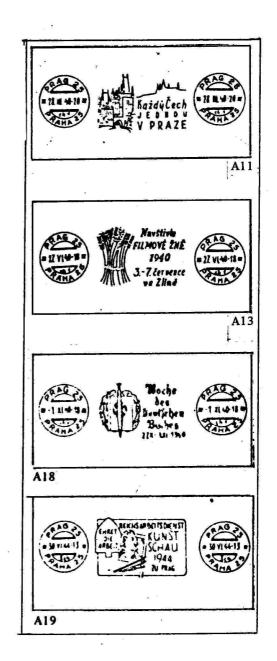
9	Ostrava Victoria fronts f	h — Ostran : 1 (—) al Germany is or Europel — 23.12.41	Bm. Sc. (-	- ,
		– 23.12.41 – DM	see No. 3, 1	
10	a	Prag 15 - Prah	Bm. Sc. (1	а
	1.	Prag 25 — Prah material and sh — 15.XI.1943 — 13.11.43	a 25 (ch1) oe collection see No. 1,	
		- DM		
11	I.	5 - Praha 25 (cl Literal trans. once in Pragu Prague is a Czech). Text illustration of with Hradschi	Every Cze- ue. (A visit must for eve alongside the Karls Brid	ci t r a
		Same text wit buildings of Pr - 2.4.10 0DM.	h illustration	C
12	Prag 2 Waste 26.5.4		ch) Bm, Sc. ( in the paper m see No	il
13	Prag 2 I.	5 — Praha 25 (c Visit the film 3rd. 7th. July plus an illustra of corn on the	n harvest 194 in Zlin. o ition of a shear	f
₩	e a	Visit the filr 3rd. 7th. July	n harvest 194	4 a
14 THE RESERVE TO THE	21.6. each	121 1241 1 14		



14	Prag 2	5 – Praha 25 (	ch.7, ch.2, ch.   Bm, Sc. (4	3). 4.b/
		rt the German		
	12. 3.50	- 31.7.41. DM	see N	02
i	3.30			22
15	2	Prag 5 - Pral	na 5 $(-)Bm$ , So	c. (6a)
	b	Prag 14 - Pr Prag 25 - Pr	aha 14 (-)	
	c d	Prag 55 - Pr	aha 55 (—)	1
*	Viktor	ria!! German	y is winning o	nall
ľ		for Europe! - 7.12.41.	H .	- 1
	30.7. 15a	DM 15	b DM	
	15c		$d - \dots DM$	
e.			see No. 3	, 9
16	Prag 2	5 - Praha 25	(1ch, 3ch)C, S	c. (-)
	I.	Prague Fair.	22 29.11.1	942.
		plus illustrat	tion of the Practice left of the t	ext.
	II.	Prague Fair.	22 29.11.1	942.
		plus illustrat	ion of the Pr	ague
ł	2.	Shield on th — 11.2.42.	e right of the	text.
1	each	8DM	see N	io. 4
		1		
17	Prag 2	25 — Praha 25	(ch1, 2ch, 3ch Bm. Sc	121
Ì	Save	Coal — the ord	er of the times	
		- 25.11.43		
Ì	4.50	D.M.	see N	vo. 0
18	Prag :	25 – Praha 25	(ch1)	c (7)
1	Germ 1940		ek/27.X - 3	5.X1.
1	plus a	n illustration	of a sword abo	ove a
ľ	book	on an oak w	reath, first or	the '
1			he left of the	text.
	20.10 5.	). — 3.11.40. — DM.	*	
1				104 1
19	a	Prag 7 - Prag 15 - P	nha 7 (—) raha 15 (—)	c (%)
	b c	Prag 25 – P	raha 25 (3ch)	
	I.	Honour w	ork — the	
		Prague Ar Reichsarbei		the
ľ			an organisatio	n on
		the lines o	f the British	Land
1		Army)	stration of a fe	male
		landworker	, a blade of a s	pade,
		etc.		
1	II.		with an illustr landworker,	
		blade, etc.		
	2000	6. – 16.8.44.	Ur DM	
1	19a 19c	DM 1	9b — DM DM.	
1	170			



20	Pross I. II.	The stamps of the whole The tender drawing Leave a cancel of meter all addressin The tender drawing of the state of the st	post-cand the letter e top edge et is sho of a letter free spa of the pos- long the	own on a front.  Ice for the st-cancelling top of the own on a
	I	M	see l	Vo. B1, B17
21	Zlin I.	— 7. July plus an	film harve in Zlin.	C, Sc. (-) est 1940, 3.  of a corn the text.
	II. 7.7.4	Same tex of the B on the rig	t plus an	illustration ise building
	28258	6DM		see No. 13
22	Brünn Germ 1940	2 – Brno 2 an Book V	2 (1) Veek/27.X	3.XI
	book	n illustration on an oak hen on the .40.	wreath, fi	rst on the
	<b>D</b> i	М		see No. 18
23	2	Mahrisch Moravská	Ostrawa 1	tran 1 (-) Sc. (2)
	b	Mährisch Moravská	- Os	tran l
1	W. 108000	oal — the or	rder of the	
*	29.2. each	- 26.10.4. 10DM		No. 6, 17
40.00				50200-0000-0000-0000

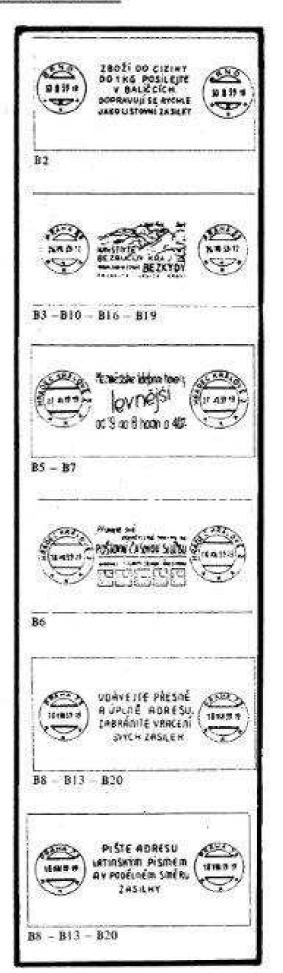


Further research fesults:			
Additions to part A.		add to 9	
1st April 1975		a Mährisch – Ostram 1	
add to 1 Brünn 1 (-) etc.	114.11.43	b Mährisch - Ostram 1 etc.	10.10
add to 2 Brünn 2 etc.	1531.7.41.		26.12.41
add to 13 Prag 25 etc.	C, Sc. (-)	add to 11	
1st October 1975		a Prag 5 etc	C
add to 3 Brünn 2 etc.	6.818.12.41.	b Prag 25 etc	28.3
add to 6 Brünn (II) etc.			19.4.40
	see No. 17, 23	add to 17 Prag 25 etc	see No 6, 23
add to 7 Brünn 2 etc.	615.11.39.	add to 18 Prag 25 etc	see No. 22

	Part B. Czech cancels which were used in	n the	•	
	Protectorate		L	Mlade Boleslay Bm, Sc
		ا	.p	Miade Boleslav  Interurban telephone calls cheaper by
1	Boskovice C, Sc			40% between 19—8 hrs.
	I. The post-cancelling-meter		1	DM see No. 5
	stamps the letter items along			DM
	the whole top edge.		S	Mlada Boleslav 1
	The text is superimposed on a		b	I. Write the complete address
	drawing of a letter front.		1	accurately to avoid postal
	II. Leave a free space for the cancel of the post-cancelling			items being returned to you.
	meter along the top of the			II Write the address in Latin
	addressing side.			script and in the direction of
	The text is superimposed on a		1	the long side of the postal
	drawing of a letter front.		1	item.
	24.5.39			14.77.–13.12.39
	DM see No. B17 and A20	l	1	DM see Nos. 13, 20, 22
		İ		Neghod 1
2	Brno(?) (II) $C$	1	9	Nachou i
	I. Items going abroad up to 1 kg	l		I. If possible pay postage with a stamp.
	in packets are delivered as	l	Ĉ.	II. Stick the postage stamps on the
	quickly as letters.	1 .	8 9	right hand corner of the address
	II. Send goods for abroad in postal packets.		I.	of the postal item.
	2930.3.39	1	}	3.11.39
	29.—30.3.39 DM	20	1	DM
	A R A ACAID		1	Pardubice 1 (-) C, Sc
3	Brno 2 (II) C, Sc		10	Taraution .
18.	I Visit the Bezruc country/	1	i	I. Beruc country/Moravian— Silesian Beskides/see how
	Moravian—Silesian Beskides and	l	i i	beautiful they are.
	see how beautiful they are.		1	plus a mountainscape
	plus an illustration of a mount-	1		II. Lysa Hora 1325m Smrk/visit
	ainscape.	1		the Bezruc country/Moravian-
	II. Lysa Hora 1323m Smrk/visit	1		Silesian Beskides/see how
	the Bezruc country/Moravian— Silesian Beskides and see how			beautiful they are.
	beautiful they are.			21.6.39
	plus an illustration of a mount-			DM see Nos. 3, 10, 19
	ainscape.			
l	3.626.7.39	ļ	111	I. Pardubice 2 C, Sc
	DM see Nos. 10, 16, 19	}		Radio broadcasts educate,
4	Ceske Budejovice 3 (4d) C, Sc	ļ		inform/entertain.
7	I. Radio broadcasts educate/			plus a transmitting tower on
	inform/entertain.	=	1	the left of the text.  II. Come forward as listeners
	plus a transmitting tower on			II. Come forward as listeners to radio broadcasts.
	the left of the text.	1	( ) ( )	plus a transmitting tower on
	II. Come forward as listeners to	1		the right of the text.
	radio broadcasts.		į.	31.8.39
	plus a transmitting tower on			DM see No. 4
	the left of the text. $31.6.39 - 14.10.39$	- 1		
1	31.6.39 – 14.10.39 DM see No. 11		12	Plzen 1 (-) C, Sc
	, , , DIII	2 9		I. Use picture postcards when
5	Hradee Kralove 2 (-) Bm, Sc	1		writing abroad.
	Interurban telephone calls cheaper	1		II. Larger post offices will accept
ŀ	by 40% between 19-8 hrs.	lwii		some types of registered postal items even after official hours.
	1827.11.39	ł	1	24.3.39
[	DM see No. 7	ł		DM see Nos. 18, 23, A7
6	Hradee Kralove 2 (-)			1
١	I. Link up your electric clocks to	1	13	Podebrady C, Sc
	the postal time service/inform-	1	1	I Write the complete address
	ation from the Telegraph Board	1		accurately to avoid postal items
	Office 3 Prague.		1	being returned to you.
l	plus 5 clocks with round dials.	21		II. Write the address in Latin script
İ	II. As above but with 5 clocks with	,	1	and in the direction of the long
1	square dials.	ł	1	side of the postal item.
1	18.2.39			15.12.39 DM , see Nos. 8, 20
	DM	1		DM , see Nos. 8, 20
-			10 m	

### SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS OF BOHEMIA & MORAVIA c'td

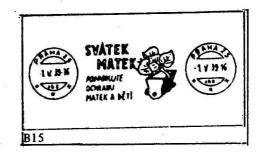
14	Praha 12 (1c) C Motorway/bridge of the Republic plus an illustration of a motorway in the centre of the text. 15,3,39 DM
15	a Praha 25 (ch2) C b Praha (55) a l. Mothering Day/Support pro- tection for mothers and child- ren plus mother with child in her arms on the left of the text.
	II. same text plus a limit free branch over a cradle on the right of the text.  117.5.39  The cancel for Prague 25 was also struck in green DM
16	Praha 55 (a) C, Sc Text as Nos, 3, 10 and 19 26,7,39 DM
1.7	Trebic C, Sc Text as Nos, 1 and A20 18,10,39 DM
18	Ustinad Ortici C. Sc Text as Nos. 12 and A7 26.9,39 DM
19	Zlin 1 (-) C, Sc Text as Nos. 3, 10 and 16 18.5.39 DM
20	Preha 73 (-) C, Sc Text as Nos. 8 and 13 18.8.39 DM
21	Vyskev (-) Bm Bo not interfere with radio broadcasts 21.8.39 DM
22	Moravska Ostrava 1 (R2) C. So 1. Write the complete address accurately/(and) avoid your postal items being returned. 11. Write the address in Latin script and in the direction of the long side of the postal item.
	22.8.39 DM see Nov. 8, 13, 20
23	Brno 2 (II) C. Sc I. Use picture postcards when writing abroad.
	Larger post offices will accept some types of registered postal items even after official hours.  6.11.39     DM    see Nov. 12, 18, 47



## SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS OF BOHEMIA & MORAVIA c'td

Date	Town	Code Letters	Inscription	6olour
23.7.41	Prag 25		UNTERSTUTZT DAS DEUTSCHE ROT KREUZ PRISPEJTE NA NEMECKY CERVENYKRIZ	Black
23.7.41	Brunn 2 Brno 2	11	11 11 11 11	Black
6.8.41	Brunn 2 Brno 2	II	VIKTORIA!! DEUTSCHLAND SIEGT AN ALLEN FRONTEN FUR EUROPA! VITEZSTVI!! RISE VITEZINA VSECH FRONTACH PR EUROPU!	0 Black
7.12.41	Prag 25		n n n nc n	Black
41	Prag 1		WOCHE DES DEUTSCHEN BUCHES	Black
9.6.43	Brunn 2	11	ALTPAPIERGEHORT IN DIE PAPIERMUHLE STARY PAPIR PATRI DO STOUPY 31 V - 12 VI 1943	Black
20.10.43	Brunn 2	II	SPARE KOHLE-DAS GEBOT DER ZEIT SETRI UHLIM PRIKAZ DOBY!	Black
1.11.43	Prag 25		SPINNSTOFF UND SCHUHSAMMLUNG SBER TEXTILH A OBUVI 1-15.XI.1943	Black
1.11.43	Brunn 1	None	n n n n	Black
20.7.44	Prag 25	3ch	EHRET DIE ARBEIT REICHSARBEITSDIENST KUNST SCHAU 1944 ZU PRAG (2 slogan types were used, one has R.A.D. Man, the other a R.A.D. Girl.)	Black













## THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CZECHOSLOVAK STAMPS OF 1983 by J.P. Krouman AIJP

Questionnaires on best designed postage stamps, organised by general (non-philatelic) press, contributed much to a greater awareness of philately. One of the most ancient, if not the oldest one, among them is the international stamp prize inquiry conducted by the Czechoslovak youth daily "Mlada fronta". It has gained a relatively very high nation-wide and even world-wide acclaim, particularly due to the fact that authors of the winning stamps never forget to reciprocate for the honour paid to their designs by elaborating analogical graphic sheets — usually based on one of the preliminary studies — that have been distributed afterwards gratis (on account of Mlada fronta) to all participants in the poll, regardless of what stamp they themselves have judged the best.

During the 21 years' existence of this successful opinion survey gauging both philatelists' and non-collectors' reactions to the previous year's stamp programme of the Czechoslovak Postal Administ-ration, 317.066 mostly well founded individual and collective judgements could be gathered, including 78.477 from abroad. This year, the number of participants has been even still higher than the record one achieved on the occasion of the 20th anniversary: 20.636 home and 2160 foreign students of stamps.

They had to answer the following questions:

- 1. What Czechoslovak postage stamp issued in 1983 do you consider best in terms of its original design and graphic excellence?
- 2. What graphic rendition of another work of art reduced down to stamp size in the Czechoslovakia's issue programme for 1983 do you acclaim as most successful?
- 3. What set of Czechoslovak postage stamps issued in 1983 do you like best as a whole?
- 4. What Czechoslovak special stamp of 1983 marking significant events or anniversaries of political character do you acclaim as the most attractive?

As the best item within the first catagory was voted (by 3916 participants from Czechoslovakia and 1007 from abroad) the special stamp of 5kcs face value in the series "Protection of Nature in Czechoslovakia", depicting a getian (Gentiana ascipiades) along with a lynx, designed by the Slovak artist Jozef Baláž and engraved by the Czech engraver Ladislav Jirka. The issue highlighting the "Day of Czechoslovakia's Postage Stamp" modeller C. Bouda, engraver M. Ondráček came second by 3306 votes from Czechoslovakia, but only 134 from abroad.

Individual values of the series reproducing famous decorative elements inside the Bohemian National Theatre have caught the fancy of philatelists both in Czechoslovakia and abroad and occupied five top-notch places within the second catagory. Ondracek's engraving transposition of Božík's dressing (detail) of the Presidential box ranked first in popularity by 5148 votes, closely followed by Jirka's graphic representation of Prague Castle - a painting by Mařák, decorating the Presidential box, as well.

The complete set of these special stamps, entitled "The artistic generation of the National Theatre" was judged the best in response to the third question by 14.096 votes. More than a half of the foreign participants gave preference to the set "Protection of nature in Czechoslovakia", however, the next most popular series, having gathered 4.416 votes in all.

The fourth question was addressed to Czechoslovak participants in the poll, only. More than sixty per cent of them voted for the simple and rather convential design of the 2Kcs stamp issued to pay homage to the so called World-wide Meeting for Peace and Life, Against the Nuclear War, held in Prague last year (modeller V. Kovarik, engraver B. Housa), whereas the politically more attractive and as item of topical interest much sought after commemorative, developed by the same artist to observe the fifth anniversary of the liftoff of the first Czechoslovak cosmonaut came second,



having gathered in all 3.267 votes..

