



CZECHOUT

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EDITORIAL

I would like to thank every one for their good wishes as on my resuming the editorial chair, and hope everyone found something of interest in September Czechout. We have been very lucky in the joint teamwork of Alan Knight & Alec Page during these past eight years. Their combined efforts have resulted in the high standard we have come to expect, and we congratulate them both on achieving the 1994 AUTUMN STAMPEX Bronze Silver Literature Award for this journal.

In helping to continue this tradition I would like to emphasize the words that Alec ended with in his Editorial - please get those pens, PC's, and PCW's busy. We have a number of fine Postal History articles in the pipeline, but could we have some stamp articles [Traditional philately] please. I also have in mind a subject such as 'new discoveries in stamp designs' which members must have come across, as Alec has said, "it hasn't all been written before - there's often a new approach to a well-worn subject".

Finally, enclosed with this Journal is an up-to-date Society Publications price/availability list, following a re-issue of all of our Monographs. Although a slight price increase for several, they are of excellent value, some with International literature awards. Similarly all of our journals from No. 1 are now available; many are reprints. Now is the time to add to your libraries!

With best wishes for Christmas & the New Year.

Colin W Spong FRPS,L

NEWS & NOTICES

Extraordinary General Meeting of Saturday September 10 1994

The Chairman Mr. Wm. Dawson opened the meeting at 2.00pm. The Agenda sent out with Czechout 2/94, containing the Committee's recommendations regarding the updating of the Constitution, was read by the Hon Secretary.

All the Sections were agreed without question by those present and would be incorporated into the Handbook, and the meeting was formally closed by the Chairman.

Meeting of Saturday September 10 1994

The Chairman, Mr. Wm. Dawson, welcomed 20 members and one guest to the meeting. He acknowledged the four apologies for absence. Two new applications for membership were announced by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. D.Y. Gren, and after the meeting endorsed their applications, the following were accepted into Society membership. We wish them a long and happy stay with us.

Mr Geoffrey Fuller of Skelmersdale
Mr John Lefevre of Birmingham

Mrs Gren invited members to put their names forward for inclusion in the new Year Book being published by the Association of British Philatelic Societies [ABPS], under the 'Willing to Display' Section.

The Chairman reported on the poor health of Mr Roy A. Dehn, FRPS,L., and explained that although he would be unable to attend, he had in fact sent his display via Mr. Colin Spong accompanied by a short introductory tape. In addition to Mr Dehn's tape, Mr Colin Spong introduced the afternoon display, The 1919 Overprints, and the material was displayed in two sections.

An Introduction to the POŠTA ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ Display by Mr Roy A. Dehn

I am sorry not to be able to present this display myself. It would have been a pleasure to meet members again.

The sheets are written up, probably excessively so for those who are not fans of this particular issue, so what I wish to say now is general not particular.

As you will know these overprints are rather disreputable. They served no postal purpose; some of the values had to be bought in multiples because no currency still existed which would defray the cost of a single item; the charity for which the 50 per cent surcharge was levelled was never named; stamps issued by Austria after Czechoslovakia became independent were included and members of the Prague Stamp Club did not hesitate to search out printers waste.

I became interested partly by chance. I had bought a Czech collection at auction and joined this society. We met most pleasantly and informally in the flat of an old world dealer, Mr. Trager. George Person presided. I showed him the little group of overprints in the collection and he at once identified certain forgeries. This stimulated my interest, since, as a collector of Italian stamps, I was already building up experience of the manifold forgeries of another overprinted Hungarian issue, those for Fiume.

At the time, there was little enthusiasm for these issues. It was possible then, and it may perhaps still be possible, to get multiples and small envelopes full of inexpensive values unchecked for small varieties. I was able even to get whole sheets of many of the overprint settings. I displayed my first acquisitions to fellow members, but nearly failed to do so because George Pearson, who was so >

helpful and knowledgeable, had embarked on some theme which looked likely to see the meeting out. Trager kindly mentioned that it had been arranged that I should pass my sheets round.

The next occasion some of you will remember. We were enjoying the warm and generous hospitality of Kay Goodman in Dorset. My collection had not been much increased since then. Indeed, it is already showing signs of age. Some of the double sided tape I used to fix the writing-up has darkened and despite the manufacturers assurance that it would not, has oozed into the paper. I should perhaps have rewritten it all.

I did think of replacing all the diagrams with photocopies of the overprints. I decided to leave them, however, uncertain whether it might not make the collection impersonal.

This is not the time to discuss overprints generally. This I have tried to do in the second of two articles in the *London Philatelist*, [October/November 1991, and awarded the Tapling Medal in 1992: Editor] not long ago. Here, I have, however, finished my display with eleven pages to present a panorama of the kind of variations to be expected in two of the overprint sub-types. I think that the Czech experts do not always give full weight to the variations which occur in printing, particularly those which result from a slight shift in the make-ready - the pad of paper on the impression cylinder which ensures that the impression is level on each letter. Even without a shift the make-ready can influence the impression. For example, if a spot of foreign matter falls onto and sticks on the type face, it will gradually eat into the make-ready, since the spot will be above type high. This will cause a hollow in the make-ready, with the result that when the foreign matter falls away there is this hollow in the make-ready and no pressure on the type face. What starts as a foreign black blot sometimes with a white ring around it then becomes a white blot, until it is noticed and the machine minder sticks a small piece of paper on the make-ready to correct it. The Czech experts consider that only a few defective letters are consistent errors, but you will see that I have sometimes been able to collect from my limited stock a number of errors which appear to occur consistently in one or other particular position.

I hope that you will not find the treatment too specialised - other people's specialties can be very boring - and will discover something of interest in the pages.

Mrs Yvonne Wheatley extended a warm vote of thanks on behalf of those present, to Mr Dehn for allowing his material to be shown in his absence, and those present echoed her wish to him for a full and speedy recovery. A Get Well Card was signed by those present.

There being no further business, the meeting closed earlier than usual at 3.45pm as the room was required for another function.

Meeting of Saturday November 12 1994

The Chairman, Mr. Wm. Dawson, welcomed a record number of 37 members to the meeting, and the Society Auction swung into action immediately at 2.30pm. Mr. John Whiteside acted as Auctioneer and was ably assisted by Messrs. Parker, Kingsley and Morrell, who did the 'running'.

Bidding was brisk and many lots went for much higher prices than at first expected. Very few lots were left unsold.

Mr. Dawson thanked Mr. Whiteside and all those who had worked so hard during the afternoon and, there being no further business, the meeting closed at about 5pm.

Mrs. Yvonne Gren would like to thank all those who purchased Christmas labels in aid of the Marie Curie Cancer Care Fund, enabling her to send a cheque for £12.50 to the charity.

Congratulations

W Alec Page for his paper on The Czechoslovak Exiled Forces - World War II to the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, at their General Meeting held in conjunction with "NOJEX 94" near Newark, NJ, USA on May 28-30, 1994. Alec's lecture was supported by colour slides and back-up material.

D. Yvonne Gren on her second term as President of the Worthing Philatelic Society. At President's Night on September 6, 1995 Yvonne showed her Czech collection in a series of themes, ending with Silesia, from where her husband Fred originated.. In 1993 she had showed her Polish collection.

Citibor Sobotka on his new appointment as a consultant to an Auction-firm in Holland. He informs us that their 1st International Mail Auction Catalogue of Czech Stamps will appear in 1995. It will include material from Czechoslovakia, Slovakia, Bohemia & Moravia, Sudetenland and Ruthania. This will consist of covers, postal stationery, proofs/trials, error and specialities etc. Fully described in English and German with prices in Dutch Guildens. The closing date is 15 April 1995, members wishing to receive a copy please write to : CSR-PHILA, A.Breëbaart, Donkerstr. 39, 4064 CX HEESSELT, Holland [enclosing £1 or DM5 in German stamps.]

Michael Elliott and John Hammonds on becoming respectively Chairman and Honorary General Secretary of the new Association of British Philatelic Societies. They were both highly involved on the ABPS Steering Committee which helped in the setting up of this organisation.

Alan Knight on his entry of Austro-Hungarian Navy Mail 1914-18 in the Open Class at Stampex.

Richard Beith on receiving the George D. Kingdom Literature Award of the American Air Mail Society for 1993 for his monograph *The Italian South Atlantic Air Mail Service 1939-1941*. This book published in 1993 includes mail flown from Bohemia and Moravia to South America via Rome.

Gibbons Catalogue Part 5: Czechoslovakia & Poland

Stanley Gibbons Publications at Ringwood advise us it is hoped that this new edition will be published on 9 December 1994, and a special Form is enclosed with this issue of Czechout, offering discount terms to members at a cost of £12.95 plus free inland postage, or by surface post overseas. Any overseas member requiring a catalogue sent by airmail will be charged at cost. It is hoped members will take up this opportunity to purchase the new edition, which is only available from Ringwood, and not from their London shop. The catalogue also contains details of our Society. The normal retail price will be £15.95.

Postcodes

Alec Page informs us that Postcode numbers beginning with 1 to 7 are in the Czech Republic, and those with 8, 9 and 0 are in the Slovak Republic.

SPECIALIST CATALOGUE OF CZECHOSLOVAK ENTIERES 1918-1992

Co-authors: Wilfried Osthues, Ctibor Sobotka & Ladislaus Kokta.

We express our thanks to co-author Ctibor Sobotka for permission to publish this translation, and to Douglas Baxter who has kindly translated this Notification from the Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei e.V. from the German language for us.

At last! a Supplement to the reports on research into Czechoslovak Philately - the huge interest in Czechoslovakian entieres, not only within the present Czech and Slovak Republics, prompted the team of authors to publicise a German-language specialist catalogue covering the whole spectrum of the Czechoslovakian Entiere. The enormous range, however, made it necessary to divide it up into several sections.

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On the occasion of the twenty fourth anniversary of the commissioning of a Czechoslovakia Study group by the Federal Research Department on August 5th 1969, we now detail the area covered by the first issue of the Specialist Catalogue. The range covered by subsequent volumes, with publication dates, is listed below.

Issue	Catalogue Part	Contents	Dates covered	Proposed publication date
1	IA	Official Postcards	1918-1938	05.08.1993
2	IB	Official Postcards including private printings	1945-1992	4th quarter 1993
2	IC ID	Picture Postcards and Art Cards Slavkov Local Post	1949-1953 1945	4th quarter 1993
3	IIA	Other entires (Letter cards, change of address cards, parcel cards, cash-on-delivery sheets and cards, Prague pneumatic post, telegramme receipts and sheets.)	1918-1938	2nd quarter 1994
4	IIB	Other entires (Letter cards, change of address cards, aerogrammes, cash-on-delivery sheets and cards, pigeon post.)	1945-1992	2nd quarter 1994
5	III	Covers (Official covers, including private printings, official mail envelopes for sending New Year greetings through the Post Minister, official envelopes with no printed value stamp.)	1945-1992	1st quarter 1994
6	IV	Slovakia - Entires	1939-1945 1993	3rd quarter 1994
7	VA VB VC	Forerunners - Entires So-called "Revolution Issues" "Fellow traveller" Issues	1st quarter 1995 1918-1944	

For the first time in the philatelic literature of a country, this specialist catalogue will describe and value every entire [with a catalogue number] and every picture forming a series of picture postcards. All previously known plate faults, varieties of paper and printing, proofs etc have been catalogued or have been especially mentioned at the appropriate place. Depending on demand, the issue of the first part of the Catalogue will consist of fifty or one hundred copies.

The cataloguing of an entire in this specialist catalogue follows the numbering system used in the catalogue "Příručka pro sběratele československých známek a celin" [Prague, 1988], supplemented, when necessary. At the beginning of each part of the catalogue is a comparison, in table form, of the Michel numbering found in Ganzsachenkatalog Ost 1993 (Entires Catalogue East 1993) and the numbering used in this Specialist Catalogue.

This catalogue represents the most up to date research and takes into account earlier standard publications in the Slovak and Czech languages, to whose authors we are greatly indebted. They have made our work considerably easier. For the kind loan of original material and/or the provision of >

photocopies we thank the following members of the Federal Study Group - Czechoslovakia (a registered society) - in alphabetical order:

Dočkal Josef, Oloumouc [CS]; Dolezal Peter, Vienna [Austria]; Dostal Harry, Starnburg; Hanacek Gerhard, Bockfliess [Austria]; Kipp Paul, Kiel; Kretschmer Manfred, Schwabach; Page de la Vega Juan E, Alcorcon [Spain]; Schlake Günther, Syke; and also Žampach František, Brno [CS].

This Entire Specialist Catalogue is arranged in two sections - text and Values.

Munich 5.8.93. Federal Study Group - Czechoslovakia. The team of authors: Wilfried Osthues, Munich; Ctibor Sobotka, Munich; Ladislaus Kokta, Munich. ©1993. Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei e.V.

NOTE: The IA Part of the Catalogue has about 300 pages and, if you order it by September 10, 1993, it costs only 32DM [after that date 39DM]!!

THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY FIELD POST OFFICE GUIDE TO POSTAL TARIFFS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND OVERSEAS

WWII

- Captain Oldřich Večerek -

Translated by V.J.Králiček

War has its own rules and regulations. This also applies to the Field Post Office. In September 1941, Capt. Oldřich Večerek Commanding Officer of the Czechoslovak Army Field Post Office in Great Britain from December 1940 to August 1943, compiled a eight page booklet of "Postal Instructions" for the Czechoslovak Forces personnel, so that they would be aware of the postal rules and tariffs, as applied to them. The last page also explains the British Railways fares valid at that time.

<u>POŠTOVNÍ POKYNY.</u>	<u>JÍZDNÉ NA DRAHÁCH.</u>
<p>POŠTA UDRŽUJE I ZA VÁLKY SPOJENÍ SE VŠEMI STÁTY, KTERÉ SE PŘIHLÁSILY K MEZINÁRODNÍ POŠTUNII, POKUD TO VÁLČNÁ A POLITICKÁ SITUACE DOVOLÍ. NÁHRADNÍ SPOJE MEZI VÁLČÍCÍMI STÁTY UDRŽUJÍ STÁTY NEUTRÁLNÍ PO ZEMI I VE VZDUCHU - POKUD VÁLČÍCÍ STÁTY NEVYLLOUČILY SVÉ OBČANY Z POŠTOVNÍHO STYKU S CIZINOU.</p> <p>VELKÁ BRITÁNIE DOVOLUJE VOJ. OSOBÁM POŠTOVNÍ STYK S NEPŘÁTELSKÝMI STÁTY TĚMITO CESTAMI:</p> <p>1) MESSRS THOMAS COOK & SON, BERKELEY TREET, LONDON, W.I. - TATO KANCELÁŘ SDĚLÍ ZÁJEMCŮM INFORMACE I POPLATKY.</p> <p>2) BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY, ST. JAMES PALACE, LONDON, W.C.I. - ZPROSTŘEDKUJE ZPRÁVY PROSTŘEDNICTVÍM MEZINÁRODNÍHO ČERVENÉHO KŘÍŽE V ŽENEVĚ NA PŘEDEPSANÝCH FORMULÁŘÍCH (ZPRÁVY MAX.25 SLOV). ZMĚNY V PODMÍNKÁCH SDĚLÍ KAŽDÝ ANGLICKÝ POŠT. ÚŘAD.</p> <p>3) VĚC! OBCHODNÍ A PENĚŽNÍ DO CI-</p>	<p>NA ANGLICKÝCH DRAHÁCH NENÍ VŠEOBECNĚ PLATNÉHO PRAVIDLA KE STANOVENÍ JÍZDNÉHO. PŘIBLIŽNĚ LZE ŘÍCI, ŽE CENA JÍZDENKY 3.TŘÍDY NEPŘESAHUJE 1.575 D - 1.TŘÍDY 2.525 D ZA KAŽDOU MÍLI. PŘÍMÉ JÍZDENKY PLATÍ JEN PRO NEJKRATŠÍ CESTU.</p> <p>ZPÁTEČNÍ JÍZDENKY, PLATNÉ MĚSÍC A PRO VŠECHNY VLAKY, JSOU LEVNĚJŠÍ. JÍZDENKA TŘETÍ TŘÍDY JE O TŘETINU DRAŽŠÍ NEŽ JÍZDENKA JEDNOSMĚRNÁ - NEJNIŽŠÍ SAZBA 2/11, SOUTHERN RAILWAY 5/10. ZPÁTEČNÍ JÍZDENKA PRVNÍ TŘÍDY JE O 50% DRAŽŠÍ NEŽ JÍZDENKA TŘETÍ TŘÍDY - NEJNIŽŠÍ SAZBA 4/5 - S.R. 8/9.</p> <p>ZPÁTEČNÍ JÍZDENKY, PLATNÉ JEDEN DEN, POUZE PRO URČITÉ VLAKY (NA PŘ. DO LONDÝNA ODJEZD TEPRVE PO 10 HOD) A VYDÁVANÉ JEN V URČITÉ DY, STOJÍ PŘIBLIŽNĚ TOLIK, CO OBVYKLÁ JEDNOSMĚRNÁ JÍZDENKA.</p>
	<p>Pod STANY 1942. VOJ.KAT.DUCH.SLUŽ.</p>

FRONT

BACK

"Postal Instructions" - The finished and approved booklet

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Translation

Even during the war the Post Office maintains contact with all the countries registered with the International Postal Union in so far, as the political and war circumstances allow. Alternative contacts between hostile countries are maintained via neutral countries by land and air - so long as the hostile countries have not prevented their people from contact with the neutral countries.

Great Britain permits postal contacts with the enemy countries, by military personnel, in following ways:-

1. Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son, Berkeley Street, London W.1 - This office will convey to interested persons information and tariffs.
2. The British Red Cross Society, St. James Palace, London W.C.1 - News exchanged by means of the International Red Cross in Geneva on the prescribed forms (max. 25 words of news). Changes in conditions will be given by every British Post Office.
3. Commercial and financial matters to foreign countries are transacted by:- Treasury and Board of Trade, Alexdra House, Kingsway, London W.C.1.

As far as possible contact should be limited to the most urgent cases only. The Gestapo persecutes recipients of letters from abroad, especially if they have not had postal contacts before the war.

To other countries

RETURN ADDRESS is allowed inside the letter only in following way:

LAND ARMY:- No., rank, name (first christian, then family name), unit, c/o P.O. Box 226, London E.C.1

AIR FORCE:- No., name, c/o P.O. Box 281, London E.C.1

Military personnel are not permitted to write about military matters or to send photographs. Hand your unsealed and correctly franked letters to the Cz. field post authorities at your unit. Do not forget to mark the envelope AIRMAIL - if the letter is to be forwarded by airmail.

IMPORTANT - Before you decide to write home, think carefully about the possible effect of your writing. The Gestapo has introduced an accurate registry of all mail received from abroad and the Reich. Your family at home will be observed and they must prove that those with family abroad have already corresponded before 1938. The Gestapo will themselves eventually find old correspondence and it's a matter of fact, that during this search they will come across some incriminating material, provision hoards, etc. so that they may act against the family. If their statements, on questioning, do not agree with your letter, very strict punishment follows. Remember that Hitler immediately after the occupation of Prague forbade participation in the Cz. Army abroad and those who have done so, are considered to be traitors. According to the Nazis the whole family bears the responsibility for its members, therefore it would be better if you do not write, rather than to cause them loss of employment and their possessions. You won't get a joy from a letter dictated by the Gestapo, even though it's written in the hand of someone you know, if you are not aware of what circumstances it was written under. Writing with help of an intermediary in a neutral country is not allowed and for repeated offences, if a written warning is not adhered to, the British censor will remove your letters from further transmission.

POSTAL TARIFFS

Ordinary letters:- Within England up to 2oz 2½d, each additional 2oz's ½d. - To the Empire, Egypt and USA up to 1oz 2½d, each additional 1oz 1d. - To the rest of the world, up to 1oz 3d, each additional 1oz 1½d.

Postcards:- 2d, with 5 words of text only 1d.

Printed matter:- Up to 2oz 1d, each additional 2oz ½d. (Max. weight 2lbs).

Newspapers:- Up to 4oz per copy 1½d, each additional 4oz ½d (up to 2lbs).

Parcels:- Up to 3lb 7d, each additional 1lb 1d (up to 15lbs).

Registered letters:- Surcharge 3d standard tariff (liability £5).

Express letter- Standard postage + 6d delivery fee for each mile.

Postal orders:- Up to 1/- surcharge 1d, to 5/- 1½d. to 21/- 2d.

Telegrams:- Up to 9 words 9d, each additional word 1d.

Telephone:- As per tariff inside the telephone booth.

Airmail letters and Postcards.

Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Vatican, unoccupied France, letters to POW's in Germany and Italy:- Letters to 1oz 5d, each additional 1oz 2½d.

Postcards 2½d	½oz letter	card
Algiers	-/4	2½d
Argentina	2/3	1/-
via Atlantic Air Service	3/6	1/7
Australia	1/3	-/7
via North Atlantic	4/6	2/3
via New York	3/-	1/6
Belgian Congo	1/3	-/7
Bermuda	-/6	-/3
Bolivia	3/6	1/7
Brazil	2/3	1/-
Canada	-/5	-/3
Ceylon	1/3	-/7
Chile	2/3	1/-
China	1/6	-/9
via North Atlantic	5/-	2/6
via New York	3/6	1/7
Egypt	1/3	-/7
Haiti	-/9	-/5
India, Iran, Kenya	1/3	-/7
Morocco	-/4	2½d
Newfoundland	1/3	-/7
New Guinea	1/3	-/7
New Zealand	1/3	-/7
Palestine	1/6	-/7
Paraguay	2/3	1/-
via North Atlantic	3/6	1/7
Peru	1/6	-/9
via North Atlantic	2/9	1/4
Sudan	1/3	-/7
Syria	1/3	-/7
Trinidad	-/9	-/5
Turkey	1/3	-/7
U.S.A.	1/3	-/7
Uruguay	3/6	1/7
Venezuela	1/6	-/9
Zanzibar	1/3	-/7

Because tariffs and airmail routes are subject to change, the latest information should be requested from the Czechoslovak field post. For overseas transmission specify the route (North Atlantic Air Service...), assuming still in operation.

Write the address in block letters with the christian name always first. Claims on registered letters and parcels must be submitted by the sender to the accepting post office which will initiate the enquiry procedure and pay the appropriate compensation. Foreign currency enclosed inside a letter is subject to a government schedule and must be exchanged immediately in a bank or post office.

Airgraph Service forms will be supplied by the field post office to those persons interested in postal contact with military personnel in the Near East. The Field Post serves the Army - try to make its service easier by submitting correct information to the Field Post personnel and by correct observation of postal regulations.

Capt. Oldřich Večerek
Commanding Officer Cz. Field Post

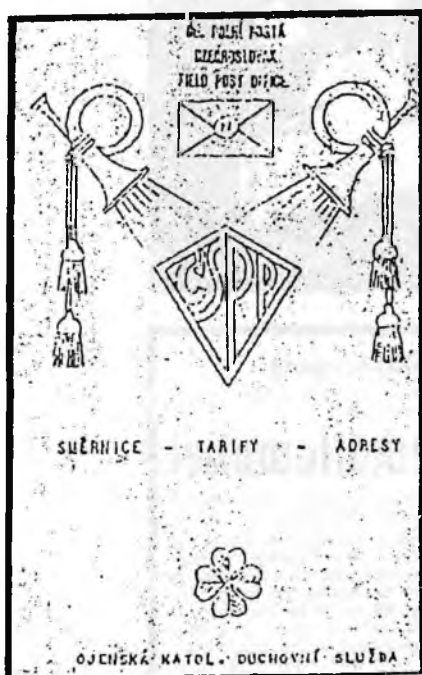
>

RAILWAY FARES

British Railways have no valid general rule for the setting of fares. The nearest that can be said is, that the cost of 3rd Class ticket does not exceed 1.575d/mile - 1st Class ticket 2.625d/mile. Through tickets are valid for the shortest route.

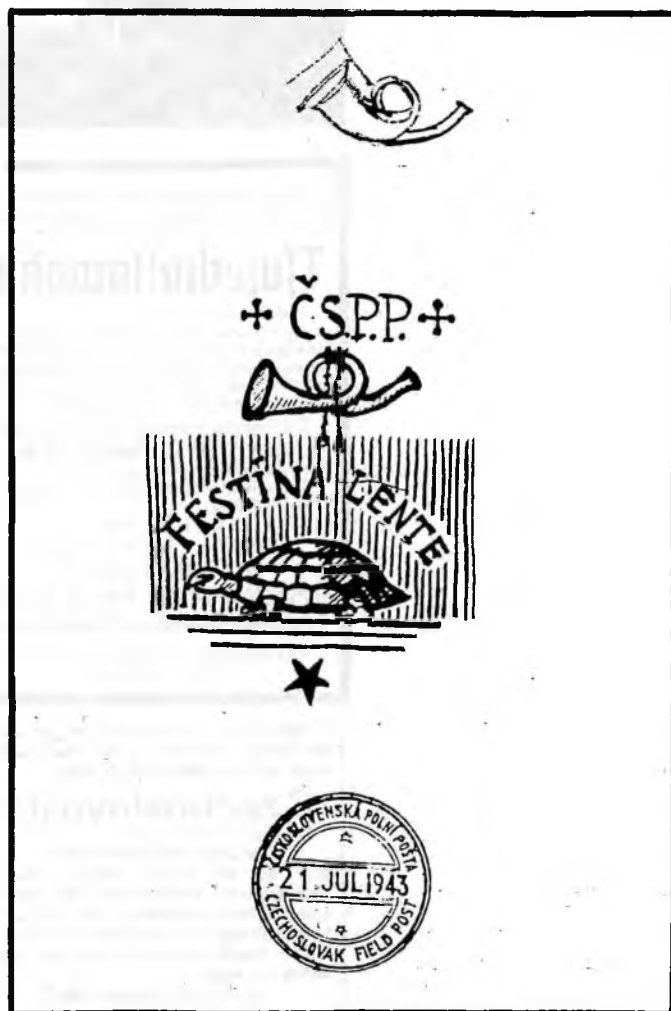
Return tickets are valid for one month and are cheaper for all trains. 3rd Class ticket is dearer by 1/3 than a single ticket - the lowest tariff is 2/11, on Southern Railway 5/10. 1st Class return ticket is 50% dearer than the 3rd Class ticket - lowest tariff is 4/5 on S.S. 8/9. Return tickets, valid for one day and for certain trains only (for example to London, departure after 10.00am) and issued only on certain days, cost approximately as much as the usual single ticket.

Under the 1942 statutes. The Forces Catholic Clerical Services.



In 1943 an expanded version of the "Postal Instructions" booklet was published. This contained a seven page supplement containing the addresses of Official and other Czechoslovak Organisations existing in London at that time.

The front and back pages used a modified version of Capt. Večerek's artwork.



Capt. Večerek's artwork used as basis for the second updated version of the "Postal Instructions" booklet

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEATH OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Historical PS

Rex Dixon

"The Sudetenland is my last territorial demand in Europe." So repeated Hitler in the early hours of 24th September 1938, at the end of his meeting at Bad Godesberg with Neville Chamberlain.



<p>Schmerzerfüllt geben die Unterzeichneten die tieftraurige Nachricht von dem endlichen Dahinscheiden ihres geliebten Kindes, der</p> <h2>Tschechoslowakei</h2> <p>Dieselbe verchied am Samstag, den 1. Oktober 1938 nach langem, qualvollen Leiden an einer Blinddarmerkrankung, versehen mit den salbungsvollen Reden ihrer Minister, ergeben in den Willen des Führers, im 20. Lebensjahre.</p> <p>Die feierliche Beisetzung findet in der Zeit vom 1. bis 10. Oktober 1938 durch die deutsche Wehrmacht statt. Die feierliche Seelenmesse findet am 28. Oktober 1938 statt. Genf, am 1. Oktober 1938. Um hilfes Beileid bitten: Der Völkerbund, Eltern, Gottwald, Dimitroff, Syrový, Pilegeclt, Litwinow-Finkelstein (Stalin), Dunkel. Beerdigungsanstalt Beneš-Takš & Co., normals Masaryk.</p>	<h3>Dankfagung.</h3> <p>Zurückgekehrt von der Bestattung unseres geliebten Kindes, der</p> <h2>Tschechoslowakei</h2> <p>danke wir allen, die uns in diesen schweren Tagen tröstend zur Seite standen.</p> <p>Besonderen Dank unserem lieben guten Onkel L. Finkelstein für die ergreifenden Abschiedsworte, dem verehrt. Gesangsverein 'Moskalia' für den schönen Grabgesang, der tapferen, getreuen 'Roten Wehr' für die Ehrenwache u. vollständige Ausrückung, unserer guten, alten 'Großen An-Tante' u. Fr. 'Kotivania' für die vergossenen Tränen, allen weill. u. vilt Spezialisten, die sich um unser krankes Kind von Versailles bis München bemühten. Eure Teilnahme war uns ein Beweis, daß das 20jährige Leben doch nicht umsonst war.</p> <p>Prag, am 10. Oktober 1938. Im Namen aller traurigen Hinterbliebenen: Expräsident Beneš und die Genfer Liga, Eltern.</p>
<p>Full of grief, we the undersigned announce the deeply sad news of the final passing away for ever of their beloved child,</p> <h2>Czechoslovakia</h2> <p>She departed this life on Saturday 1st October 1938 after long and painful suffering from an appendectomy administered with fulsome speeches from her ministers. She succumbed to the Führer's will in her 20th year of life.</p> <p>The funeral ceremony will take place during the period 1st to 10th October 1938 courtesy of the German Wehrmacht.</p> <p>The ceremonial requiem mass will take place on 28th October 1938.</p> <p>Geneva, 1st October 1938.</p> <p>Quiet sympathy is requested by: The League of Nations, parents Gottwald, Dimitrov, Syrový, foster parents Litvinov-Finkelstein (Stalin), uncle Undertakers Beneš-Takš & Co., formerly Masaryk</p>	<h3>Acknowledgements</h3> <p>Returning from the funeral of our beloved child,</p> <h2>Czechoslovakia</h2> <p>we thank everyone who stood by our side in these difficult days.</p> <p>Especial thanks to our beloved uncle L. Finkelstein for the touching words of farewell, to the esteemed choir 'Moskalia' for the beautiful funeral singing, to the brave and loyal 'Red Guard' for the guard of honour and complete withdrawal, to our good old 'Grataunt Ann' (pun on Grande Entente) and Miss 'Red Spain' for the tears shed, to all western and eastern specialists who cared for our sick child from Versailles to Munich. Your participation has been proof to us that the 20-year long life has not been for nothing.</p> <p>Prague, 10th October 1938.</p> <p>In the name of all the sad survivors: Ex-President Beneš and the Geneva League, parents</p>

>

I leave it to the readers to decide whether this undated black and white postcard was published before or after the final demise of Czechoslovakia in March 1939. But if it was before, as seems probable, the anonymous publisher clearly did not share Hitler's publicly stated opinion. The author of the mock announcement of Czechoslovakia's death attributed the cause to 'appendectomy' performed when the Sudetenland was severed by the German Wehrmacht during the first ten days of October 1938.

I have produced a translation of the card and have attempted to render it in a format approximating the original. Any faults in translation are my own. The left side takes the form of an announcement of death; the right are acknowledgements to Czechoslovakia's so-called friends. The lists of Communist characters mirror Goering's speech on 10th September to the Nuremberg Party Rally, where he harangued: "This miserable pygmy race (the Czechs) is oppressing a cultured people, and behind it is Moscow and the eternal mask of the Jew devil."

Now for some information on some of the characters mentioned.

Maxim Litvinov was the Soviet commissar for foreign affairs from 1930 to May 1939. He urged the League of Nations to make plans for collective security against Nazi Germany, and in 1935 signed treaties with France and Czechoslovakia. On 21st September 1938 in a speech to the League of Nations in Geneva, he reiterated that the Soviet Union would stand by its treaty with Czechoslovakia. But even as he spoke, France had effectively reneged its obligations to Czechoslovakia, which released the Soviet Union from its treaty commitments.

Klement Gottwald was the leader of the Czechoslovak Communists. He proposed forcible resistance to German seizure of the Sudetenland. But when consulted by President Beneš, he would not answer for Moscow as to whether the Soviet Union would act even if France did not. Gottwald was later to become a post-war premier, then president of Czechoslovakia.

Georgi Dimitrov, a Bulgarian Communist who had gained fame for his heroic defence and acquittal in the Reichstag Fire trial of 1933, was secretary general of the executive committee of the Communist International (Comintern) from 1935 to 1943. In this role, he encouraged the formation of popular fronts against Nazism. Dimitrov was also later to become a post-war premier of his native Bulgaria.

President Beneš appointed General Jan Syrový premier of a government of national concentration following the resignation of Mílam Hodža's government on 22nd September 1938. He had previously been Inspector-General of the Army. Beneš resigned the presidency on 5th October under pressure from Berlin, and General Syrový became acting president until Dr. Emil Hácha took over officially on 30th November.

I ask readers to assist me in elucidating the names Finkelstein and Takš (Taksch), to both of whom I have no references. The righthand bust is, of course, of Tomáš Masaryk, but who is the other bust of? And I cannot find anything about the Grand Entente. (The Petite Entente was formed in 1921 by Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia for mutual protection against revisionist Hungary.)

References:

A Short History of Modern Bulgaria, by R.J. Crampton,
The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, by William L. Schirer.
The Origins of the Second World War, A.J.P. Taylor.
The Approach of War 1938-39, by Christopher Thorne.
The New Encyclopaedia Britannica.

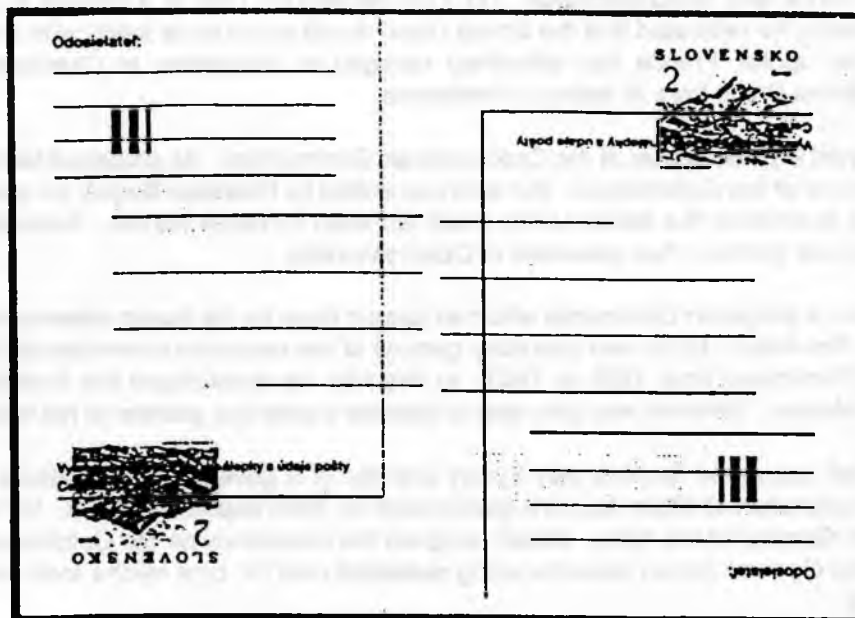
We thank Rex for submitting this article which is also being published in *Die Deutsche Postkarte* the newsletter of the Postcard Study Group of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society.

Slovak PS

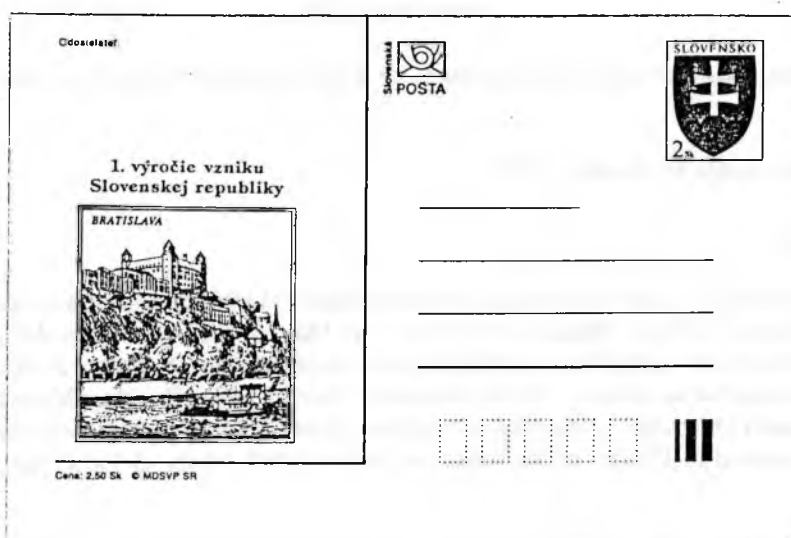
WHATEVER'S HAPPENING?

A.J.Knight

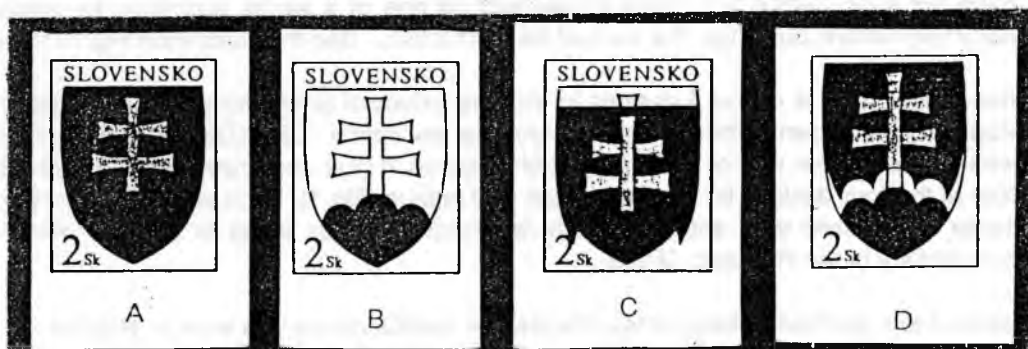
It is always pleasant to come across the occasional misprint, double print or misperforated item because under normal circumstances they would tend to be genuine and with some scarcity value. However, what I have witnessed over the recent couple of months is worrying indeed. Members may recall the item on p.6 of 'Czechout 3/1993' showing a 'Česko-Slovensko' PSPC with imprinted 2Kčs 'Krivan Peak' stamp. This particular card carried the (smaller) Slovak 'Arms' 3 (Three Slovak Crowns) value. The trouble here was that the smaller stamp was not scheduled for issue until 2.1.1993 (and FDCs confirm this) yet somehow or other 'Košice 1' p.o. was able to 'jump the gun' by a day with the 'Arms' 3 cancelled 1.1.1993. Incidentally, this particular pc was printed in Bratislava the Slovak capital. Recently I have seen the first 'Slovensko' official pspc on sale with double/inverted printing - and have also been offered copies of this from a Slovak correspondent. That's nothing compared with what follows:



On 1.1.1994, Slovak PSPC No.2 was issued but this time with a 2Sk imprinted 'arms' stamp in blue, red, silver and black. It was printed in 4 colour offset by the State Stamp Printing Office, Bratislava. This journal being in black-white, it behoves me to explain that the Slovak Arms stamp is made up as follows within a black (18.5x23mm) frame: Red shield with three blue 'hills' at bottom upon which stands the silver (within black outline) Slovak Cross with value bottom left. Now here comes the surprise: I have on my desk as I type this article, four cards with four different versions of this imprinted stamp. Additionally, I also have a card that seems quite official - the same basic pspc but now with a reproduction of the design of the 'Bratislava' HV (50Sk) definitive of 31.12.1993, headed (in Slovak) "1. výročie vzniku/Slovenskej republiky" - 1st Anniversary of the formation of the Slovak Republic". Under the frame is the price (2.50Sk) followed by a copyright logo and the initials MDSVP SR. I illustrate this card overleaf as a matter of interest for readers. I have not yet been informed of the official issue date. >



The question now arises - 'How long must we wait to see examples of this last pspc being misprinted in some way or other.....?'



Illustrated above are slightly enlarged copies of the imprinted stamps on the four cards I have referred to, marked A,B,C and D. Their appearances are as follows:

- A. - Normal stamp properly printed.
- B. - Frame and shield in black outline only and no silver; blue hills properly applied.
- C. - Red shield dropped 2mm - the same with the cross's silver.
- D. - Red shield raised 1.5mm; cross's silver raised 2.5mm.

Last week my correspondent offered me more of these 'misprinted' cards. I have not yet replied (better to cool down first!).

In the past most of us have had good cause to moan about Czechoslovak stamps because of their sometimes heavily biased political images but I have yet to hear a single complaint of 'jiggery-pokery' by the modern post printing house, Prague. All printerries suffer some 'waste' but I think Prague PPH has been scrupulous in its control of such modern material (a far cry from 'Hradčany' days!). But I do ask today 'Whatever's happening in Bratislava now?'

An odd error on the stamp market is one thing but to be offered repeated supplies of errors such as I've outlined here is, surely food for thought. Therefore, at the risk of being thought cynical, I must offer the same old but good advice to collectors of such material - "Let the Buyer Beware!"

"WHAT?. WHEN?. WHERE?"

- Members' Queries -

Another selection, together with some answers, for which we are sure our inquirers will be grateful; the answers first.

Re Chris Cordes' query in Czechout 2/94

From Bill Dawson:

All the illustrated designs were essays of unadopted designs intended for the proposed issue to mark the First Anniversary of the Republic in 1919. In May of that year, the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs invited Czech artists to submit designs in a competition to select suitable subjects for that proposed commemorative issue. Artists specially invited were Benda, Brunner, Hynais, Kupka, Kysela, Mucha and Obrovský. And obviously other artists also submitted entries, and the names of Ryjáček (Germanised to Rijaček), Mudruňka as well as staff artists of the Prague printer A. Haase come to mind.

I offer the following comments on the items submitted by Chris Cordes:

- Item 1 depicts Charles Bridge, Praha with the Malá Strana bridge tower and Hradčany. This I have not seen before but I think it may well be one of a series submitted by printer Haase depicting historic buildings, the work of his staff artists. See the illustration Fig.10 following.
- Item 2 the 'nude' is one of 4 designs for Koruna values of similar format submitted by František Kupka. It is known both with and without the inscription "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ POŠTA", on white or buff paper with or without gum, bi-coloured in blue and brown. Also found in blocks of four of the four designs by Kupka in black and in blue (Fig.1). Also known printed singly in the same bi-coloured blue and brown but re-engraved for an issue in 1928 to mark the 10th anniversary of the Republic. (Fig.2).
- Items 3 to 6 are from a long series intended for haléřů values, the work of Ryjáček (or Rijaček) depicting Czechoslovak historic personalities plus two illustrating folk costumes. Illustration 3 shows Jan Žižka [1360-1424] the General of the Hussite Armies. Item 4 Juraj Janošík [1688-1713] Slovak folk hero, the Slovak "Robin Hood". No. 5 František Palacký [1798-1876] Czech historian, writer and patriot. Item 5, the 2 haléřů design shows a typical folk headdress.

Further examples relevant to Mr. Cordes' illustrations in my collection are reproduced below, to which I add the following notes:

- Fig.1 The four unfinished designs for Koruna values by František Kupka which includes the 'nude' referred to in item 2 above. Design at upper left of the block shows Czechoslovak Legionnaires of W.W.I. in uniforms of the Italian, French and Russian armies.
- Fig.2 The 'nude' Kupka design, an allegory of the freedom of the Czechs and Slovaks, re-engraved for the 10th anniversary inscribed "28. X. 1918-1928". Printed singly and in same bi-colours blue and brown as original, on gummed paper, perf 11½.
- Fig.3 Completed Kupka design of three Legionnaires, as in Fig.1 in same two colour combination blue and brown, printed singly on ungummed paper.
- Fig.3A As Fig 3 but re-engraved for the 10th anniversary commemorative proposal, on gummed paper, perf 11½.

>



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 3A

Fig.4 Shows the same Kupka Legionnaires basic design but again re-engraved for a suggested 1937 issue to honour those who fought to secure independence in W.W.I and the aftermath. Similarly on gummed paper, perf 11½.



Fig. 4

Fig.5. Se-tenant five designs from the long series intended for haléřů values by Ryjáček : 50h František Palacký as Mr Cordes item 5. Ján Kollár [1793-1852] Slovak poet who wrote in Czech language and supported independence for Slav nations. 1h shows a child in folk costume. 2h depicts folk headdress, as Cordes item 6. Master Jeroným of Praha (Jerome), religious reformer, preacher and close friend of Jan Hus.

Fig.6. Further se-tenant designs of the long haléřů series by Ryjáček: Jan Hus [1369-1415] philosopher, preacher and religious reformer who died at the stake in Constance. 12h Samo, semi-legendary ruler of the Slavs of central Europe in late 7th century. 5h Svatopluk, ruler of the Great Moravian Empire in late 9th century during the time of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Ernest Denis, French historian, supporter of Masaryk in the struggle for Czech and Slovak independence. 30h Jiří (George) z Poděbrad [1420-1471] became first Hussite King of Bohemia whose aim was peace and security.

Fig.7 Again se-tenant designs by Ryjáček for haléřů values: Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk [1850-1937] worked for independence and became first President of Czechoslovakia. 25h Jan Amos Komenský [1592-1670] teacher, educationalist and Bishop of the Unity of Brethren, died in exile Holland. 45h F.L. Rieger [1818-1903] politician, ardent supporter of Czech Nationalism movement. Juraj Janošík, as item 4 of Cordes illustrations, [1688-1713] the Slovak "Robin Hood".

Figures 5, 6 and 7 are all in red on poor quality buff paper without gum.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7

- Fig.8. Further design by Ryjáček for 75h depicting Jan Žižka [1360-1424] the Hussite General, as item 3 of Cordes illustrations. Printed singly in red on cream paper, imperf.
- Fig.9. 80h of same series by Ryjáček, depicts Prince Václav [circa 907-929] the patron saint of Bohemia. murdered by his brother Boleslav and the origin of the legend of Good King Wenceslaus. Printed in deep olive-brown on gummed paper, perf 11½.
- Fig.10. Karlštejn castle built in mid 14th century on directive from Emperor Karel (Charles) IV as a fortress to hold the Bohemian crown jewels. Printed in green on ungummed white paper. Designer is unknown to me but almost certainly by the same artist as Mr. Cordes item 1 of Charles Bridge submitted as a series depicting historic buildings for 1919 issues.



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

As suggested by the list of artists mentioned in the first paragraph of these notes, many other essays of unadopted designs are to be found in varied colours, differing papers with and without gum, various formats and both perforated and imperforated. As far as this writer is concerned, I know of no comprehensive list of these essays of unadopted designs for the 1919 First Anniversary issue, which in the event was a charity issue.

On a point of interest, the result of the Ministry's competition was as follows:

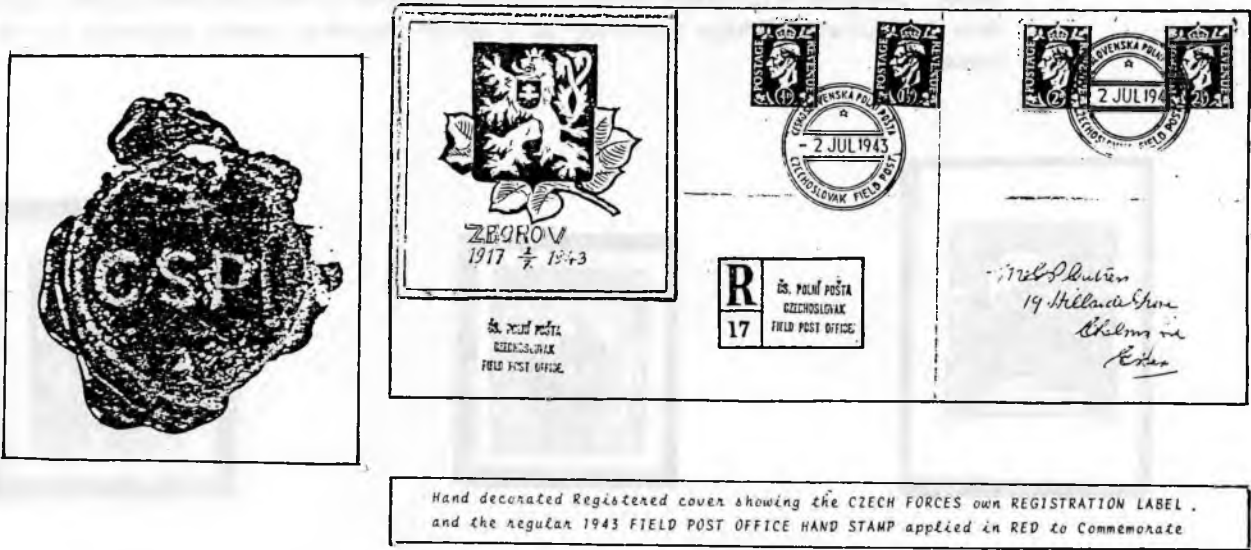
- 1st prize to V.H. Brunner for his design showing the allegorical figure breaking the symbolic shackles to attain freedom, incorporating date of the declaration of Independence of the new Republic. This was adapted and used for the 1920 series "Osvobozená".
- 2nd prize to Jaroslav Benda for a symbolic representation of the Battle of the Marne. This design was never used but the artist was responsible for the design of the 1920 "Holubice" series.
- 3rd prize to Jakub Obrovský for his submission of the "Mother and Child" design which was adapted and used for the 3 higher values of the issued 1919 First Anniversary set. His further drawing of "Lion breaking its chains" was used for the 3 low values of the 1919 issue.

Artist A.Mudruška was unsuccessful with his submissions for this competition, though some of his essays are to be found. However, he had the consolation of his design for the "Linden leaf" cancel for use with this issue in Praha 1 being accepted.

Re Alec Page's "CSSP" query in Czechout 3/94.

From Dr Garth Taylor:

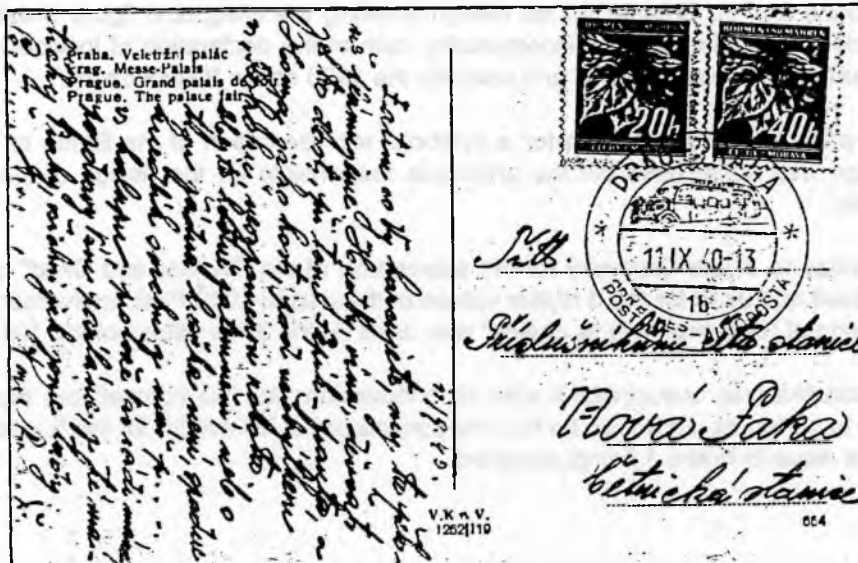
I have a philatelic cover posted to Mr Cutress, Chelmsford, dated 2 Jul 1945 to commemorate the battle of Zborov, on the reverse, the envelope has Two red wax seals which have been imprinted with a stamp as described in Alec's article. [Illustration enlarged & greatly enhanced]. It is almost certain that the mark on the envelope described is made by the same die but used with an ink pad instead of wax, its intended use.



Re James Ansell's query Czechout 3/94

From Clyde Ziegler:

Firstly, my thanks to Vladimir, Rex and John for their assistance with my queries. With reference to James' query I attach a photocopy of an item in my collection showing usage of AUTOPOST during the Bohemia & Moravia period.



According to an article in *SAMMLER-DIENST* 1.9.77 by E. Hamann the marking comes with and without TONZEICHEN (accent) over the S of AUTOPOSTA.

Usage was as follows:

PRAG-PRAHA (orange)

with accent:

1a -

1b 7.4.40 to 16.9.41

1c 31.3.40 - 8.9.40

1d -

without accent

1a 14 - 17.9.41

1b 7.4.40 - 23.5.40

1c 8.9.40 - 7.9.41

1d 31.3.40 - 15.9.40

PARDUBITZ - PARDUBICE (orange)

with accent

1a 5.7.40

1b 5 - 7.7.40

without accent

1b 6 - 7.7.40

[Clyde included further information in the German language which Douglas Baxter has kindly translated for us as follows:]

What is depicted here are so-called mobile post offices. There are also other widely-used Czech Auto Pošta postmarks from Prague and Pardubitz. The postmark illustrated shows the error AUTO-POSTA (without the accent over the S). The Pardubitz postmark, which was not illustrated, differs from the Prague postmark only in the place name.

One query: From Martin Griggs.

Can anyone identify the stamp on the left hand corner of this cover to Beverley, E.Yorks. It is blue on a white background. Perhaps the date 6.3.39 [eight days before the German occupation] may have some significance?



WORKS OF ART ON POSTAGE STAMPS



- 9.11.1994 (3 values) - Engravers: 7Kč - Miloš Ondráček
 10Kč - Václav Fajt
 14Kč - Bedřich Housa

Printed recess/flat plates in sheets x4 with stamp designs 40x 50mm. p11 $\frac{3}{4}$.

1. - 7Kč. - Lucas van Leyden (1494-1533) "An Old Fool and a Woman" (1520)
 National Gallery, Prague. (commemorates artist's 500th Birth Anniv.)
2. -10Kč. - Henri de Toulouse Lautrec (1864-1901) "Moulin Rouge" (1892)
 National Gallery, Prague.
3. -14Kč. - By Czech Master before 1396 "Our Lady of Saint Vitus"
 Chapter House of the Cathedral of Saint Vitus, Prague.

Gutter text: "650 Let od Gotické Přestavby Chrámu Sv. Víta" (650 years since the Gothic Reconstruction of St. Vitus' Cathedral). with the signs of Masters Matthias of Arras (left) and Peter Parler (right).

FDCs: (3) - 7Kč. - Engraver's free variation of the artist's self portrait and personal mark (15L25).

10Kč. - Engraver's transcription of artist's lithograph **Jeane Avril** from 1893 together with small artist's mark within a circle.

14Kč. - Engraver's transcription of the locket of St. Vitus, a small detail taken from the frame of Our Lady of St. Vitus.

N.B. St. Vitus' Cathedral, a characteristic and inseparable part of the outline of Prague Castle, is not only the most important church edifice in the Czech Republic but is also extremely rich in art treasures.

It stands where originally stood the rotunda with the tomb of Prince Václav I (Wenceslaus, 926-929 A.D.). Charles IV founded a cathedral here, summoning the premier architect, Matthias of Arras to Prague from Avignon.

A special chapel was erected and dedicated to Saint Václav (Wenceslaus). This was later enlarged by the famous Gothic architect Peter Parler of Gmund. He also was responsible for starting the building of the cathedral's main tower. >

CHRISTMAS 1994

9.11.1994 "Drawing of little angel made of Vizovice
pastry on a spruce twig"
2Kč

Designed/Engraved: Bedřich Housa (23x30mm).
rotary recess printing combined with multicoloured
photogravure in black-brown, gold, blue, green, ochre
in sheets x50 subjects. (p.11½x11½)

FDC: - Pair of stamps with drawing of a Christmas
decoration - a small bird in blue.

This is the last planned stamp for 1994

THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVAKIA

The following new issues are announced by the Ministry of Transport
Communications and Public Works:

WORLD DAY WITHOUT TOBACCO

31.5.1994 3Sk. - "Two cigarettes with combined
smoke forming a Cross"

Designer: Zdeno Brázdil. Engraver: Martin Činovský.
Printed rotary recess/recess in sheets x50 - p.11½x11¾

FDC - Printed by "KASICO" printers in Bratislava in
offset (black/red) showing the subject symbol.

WORLD FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 1994

10.6.1994 2Sk. - "World Map, Football and Tie on
a football shirt" together with a
football ground motif."

Designer: Svetozár Mydlo. Engraver: Bohumil Šneider.
Rotary recess/recess printing in sheets x50 subjects.
p.11½x11¾.

FDC - Running footballer - printed by Post Printing
Office in Prague. >

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPICS COMMITTEE

(100th Anniversary)



23.6.1994 - 3Sk. - Three Running Olympians with Torch; inscribed as above. The stamp has a $\frac{1}{2}$ stamp-size tab with symbols of the Slovak Olympic Committee.

Stamp and tab designed by Ivan Schurmann and both engraved by Martin Činovský. Design size: 40x23mm (tab: 20x23mm). Printed rotaryrecess/recces in sheets x30 stamps and 40 tabs. FDC: Portrait of Pierre de Coubertin by Martin Cinovsky; engraved by Frantisek Horniak.

NATURE PROTECTION - BIRDS OF PREY

4.7.1994 - (3 values). Aquila chrysaetos L. (Eagle) - 4Sk.
Falco peregrinus tunst. (Falcon) - 5Sk.
Bubo bubo L. (Owl) - 7Sk.

Rotary recess/multi-colour recess in sheets x50 subjects. p.11 $\frac{1}{4}$ x11 $\frac{3}{4}$.
Set designer: Ján Švec. Engraver: Rudolf Cigánik. Design: 23x40mm.

FDC (1) - Features nesting bird with young. Cancellation in form of a nest/eggs.

KING SVÄTOPLUK - 1100th Death Anniversary

12Sk. The King with symbolic 'concord bars' and the date period 870-894. Des: Tibor Bártfray; Eng: Josef Hercik. (50x35mm). FDC (1) showing part of a Papal Bull to the King/Slavonian Cross. Flat Plate recess in sheets x4 stamps. P.11 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Date of issue: 20.7.1994

>

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION - 120th Anniversary



1.8.1994 - 8Sk. Des: Oliver Solga : Eng: Rudolf Cigánic
Design 23x40mm. - Small boat with sail carrying UPU emblem and date period 1874-1994 below the Slovak Flag. The 'oars' consist of a pen and pencil. Entire completed with inscribed 'Universal Postal Union' in Slovak.

FDC: Together with suitable drawings, the cover bears the inscription "Kongres SPÚ, 22.8 - 14.9.94 (UPU Congress, Seoul, 22.8 - 14.9.94)".

Stamp printed rotary recess/gravure in sheets x50 (p.11½x11¾)

SLOVAK NATIONAL UPRISING 50th Anniversary

(French Volunteers)



27.8.1994 - 8Sk. Stamp 40x23mm with ½ stamp-size tab shows French soldiers at Strečno Hill and the French Volunteers Memorial obelisk. Inscription (in Slovak) reads: "To the Eternal Glory of The Sons of France".

The graphically illustrated tab carries the inscription SNP/1944 1994. (SNP = SNU: Slovak National Uprising).

Des: Josef Baláž; Eng: Martin Činovský. Printed rotary recess/recess in sheets of 30 stamps and 40 tabs; p.11¼x11¼.

(Generals Viest and Golian)



27.8.1994 - 6Sk. Stamp with tab (identical to the above tab) and with same technical details as those above.

Design of stamp shows images of both generals and inscription "SNP/1944/1994".

FDCs: 8Sk: Creative composition - "International Resistance to Fascism".
6Sk: Banská Bystrica/Free Radio note fragment/Man's palm/architecture. >

NATIONAL ANTHEM - "Lightning Over The Tatras"



1.9.1994 - 34Sk (m/sheet 67x80mm)
Stamp size 40x23mm. p.11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x11 $\frac{1}{4}$.

Des: Vincent Hložník : Eng: M. Činovský

Stamp shows portrait of the Slovak poet Janko Matúška and inscription "Nad Tatrou sa blýska/1844-1994". Also an allegorical symbol from the Slovak song "A Well She Dug" (woman pouring from a jug). It is from the melody of this song that the Slovak anthem tune is based.

A further allegorical drawing appears on the blank field of the block: Young Woman, open book, pen and ink bottle with Linden sprig.

Printed flat-plate recess. FDC: Shows departure of students from Bratislava's college to Levoča in support of Ľudovít Štur's national efforts.

COMENIUS UNIVERSITY - 75th Anniversary



18.10.1994 - 12Sk. Des: Dušan Kállay : Eng: Martin Srb.

Stamp (23x40mm) shows in gold/black the obverse of the Comenius University Medal with portrait of Comenius. It is surrounded by twelve symbols of the faculties of this establishment. Below (in Latin) is the inscription "University of Comenius, Bratislava/1919-1994."

N.B. The medal's design was the work of O. Španiel.

FDC: Carries drawing of the University's symbol with the stamp cancellation based on the University frontage.

The stamp was printed rotary recess/recess in sheets of 50 pieces; p.11 $\frac{1}{4}$ x11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

>

HORSE RACING AT MOJMIROVCE



25.10.1994 - 2Sk. Designer: Dušan Grečner : Engraver: Rudolf Cigánik.

Stamp design (40x23mm) shows a race-horse and its jockey below a banner bearing the inscription "Dostihy u Mojmirouciach 19.5.1814" (Racing at Mojmirovce 19.5.1814). At bottom-left is shown the horse that won the first race at this venue - 'Tajar' (1811-1830).

FDC: This carries a picture of Mojmirovce Castle with surrounding park and historic coach.

Stampprinted rotary recess/recess in sheets x50 subjects - p.11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x11 $\frac{1}{4}$.

Please note that except where indicated differently, all stamps and covers were produced by the Czech Post Printing Office in Prague - both Czech and Slovak.

NOTES ON KING SVÄTOPLUK

The stamp celebrates his 1100th death anniversary (? - 894, Nitra). Svätopluk was the most important figure in the Mojmir dynasty and Prince of Great Moravia from 871 to 894. It was under his rule that Great Moravia achieved its greatest territorial reach.

Svätopluk was recognised by the then Pope as the equal of any other rulers of Christian Europe. It was to Svätopluk that the Papal Bull "Industriae tuae" - establishing the ecclesiastical province of Great Moravia - was issued by Pope John VIII in June 880. The FDC reproduces the beginning of the bull - the address "Dilecto filio Sfantopulcho, glorioso comiti" ("To the Beloved Son Svätopluk, glorious prince ..." - as recorded in Vatican archives. There are many legends telling of Svätopluk's life and wisdom, most notably one involving rods and unity.

The sword at the centre margin of this printing sheet is inspired by finds at the princely tomb at Blatnica. The cross on the fdc is from the Great Moravia period and was discovered in excavations at Mača. The cancellation in from an ancient Slav pectoral.

[Notes by courtesy of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Public Works of the Slovak Republic].