



CZECHOUT

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NOTES

We enclose with this journal the annual index for volume 16, 1998, the bi-annual up-date to the Society Handbook, details of the Regional meeting on 26 June which will be held in Shoreham-by-Sea, together with the April Auction List. The next London meeting is on 4 September when Rex Dixon is showing Further European Border Changes in World War II.

Members, will you please advise the Membership Secretary of your change of address or phone number. We had the occasion recently when one of the officers urgently needed to contact a member only to find that the phone number had been changed, and not listed. Orders for publications are to go to the Honorary Secretary, and proposed monographs to the Publications Officer.

The Packet Secretary wishes to remind Members that he cannot split packets to suit individual interests ie: 1st Republic, Bohemia & Moravia, Slovakia, 2nd Republic etc. The packets have to be issued containing all booklets of whatever material that he has received from the members.

Bob Hill says "Standby and cancel holidays for an outstanding July Auction. 1918-1939 when Hradčany charity overprints and original artwork will be on offer."

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

NEWS & NOTICES

Meeting of Saturday 16 January 1999

The Chairman, Robert Kingsley, welcomed 21 members and one visitor to the meeting held in the Czech & Slovak National Club, 74 Westend Lane, London NW6 at 2.30 pm. Apologies had been received from three members.

Robert was pleased to present Colin Spong FRPSL with a certificate to mark Honorary Life Membership bestowed upon him at the AGM for his outstanding contribution for the furtherance of the Society, in particular as Chairman from 1982-85 and for three spells as (joint) Hon Editor of *Czechout*. In his acceptance, Colin said it was a great honour, "a nice thank you for the little I've done."

The Hon Secretary gave details of seven prospective new members:

Derek Waugh, from Sunderland
 Ian Nutley, from Biggin Hill
 Robert Cossaboom, from Scott, Illinois
 Tony Bosworth, from Maidstone
 Michael Brindle, from Thetford
 Frank Clark, from Evesham
 Henry Hahn, from Fairfax, Virginia

Whose applications were readily endorsed and formally accepted.

George Firmage told the audience that there was no philatelic exhibition in Bratislava during 1999. However, Brno would be holding a major event BRNO 2000 from 5 to 11 March 2000; a show of hands showed that there would be strong interest in investigating a possible Society visit.

Robert then called upon **Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL**, ably assisted by Richard, to present her display of *Miscellany*, an appropriate title for a very varied *pot pourri*. Yvonne explained that she was trying to display material not normally associated with her. She explained that the first section, on the Czechoslovak Forces in Siberia, had been enriched by acquisitions ex Kay Goodman, and that the large section of forerunners owed much to a "hoard" from a fortunate, recent contact in the Czech Republic. The rest of the display included the Carpatho-Ukraine, cross-border TPOs, postage dues, and fieldpost.

The vote of thanks was given by Colin Spong, who had first introduced Yvonne to the Society in the 1960's, and had seen how she had since developed as a Czechoslovak collector. He remarked that this was the first formal display that Yvonne had given to the Society in London - it was indeed a "fantastic miscellany".

There being no further business, the meeting closed at about 4.15 pm.

Rex A Dixon

Regional Meeting of Saturday 28 November 1998

At this Society meeting held at Pudsey, West Yorkshire, a variety of material was on display. Guest Bernard Lucas showed pneumatic mail of Prague. John Whiteside gave an informative talk on internal parcel post 1919-21 and Sudetenland postal rates, both illustrated with material. The displays concluded with Free Czech Forces given by Richard Beith. Another guest, Richard Hughes-Rowlands, the President of the Leeds Philatelic Society, enjoyed the proceedings. It was a pleasure to meet Derek Waugh, a new member of the Society attending his first meeting.

A similar event has been arranged to be held at the Annual Fair of the Leeds Philatelic Society on Saturday 20 November 1999. Please note the change of date and not as on the programme card.

Midpex '99: Tile Hill, Coventry on Saturday 3 July.

The Society will be having a table again at this Specialist Society event. We hope members will go along and support this exhibition.

>

Club weekend in Leamington Spa, 1-3 October 1999

Members wishing to attend this event, please note the date and advise Dr Garth Taylor as soon as possible: 2 Penfold Close, Hathern, Loughborough, LE12 5LS

Congratulations

Italia Milan '98 Richard Beith kindly informs us the awards for the winners announced in our last issue were as follows: Richard Beith, Vermeil, *The Italian South Atlantic Air Mail Service 1939-41*; Otto Hornung, Gold & Special Prize, *Branch Offices of Istanbul*; Geoffrey McAuley, Large Vermeil, *Where is My Home?*

Letters to the Editor

1. Heinz Vogel has sent us this cutting which appeared in the August 1998 issue of *Flight International*.

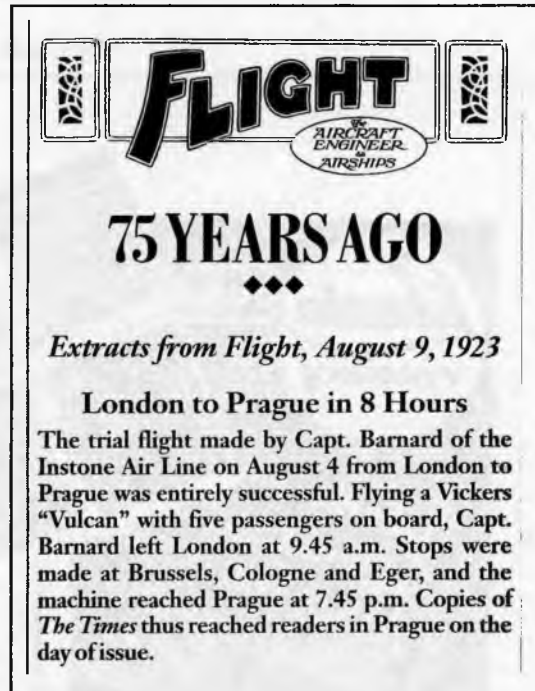
2. Bob McLeod is compiling a very large list of towns which have changed their name since before WW1 and one of the existing lists he has refers to locations by a code specific to the EUROPA AUTO ATLAS published by HALLWAG, BERNE in 1971. He is in the process of giving Latitude and Longitude for locations and needs a copy of this atlas to ensure he is referring to the correct town - many have the same name. The British Library has a 1960's version only, but this is to a different scale and so cannot be used for this purpose.

Can any member help? Please contact Bob at 11 Southwold Close, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7EZ

Publications

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

- The December 1998 issue of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol. 30, Whole No 118 and Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us. The articles include:
 - ▶ Czechoslovakian censorship of telegrams in 1938 (-); Recess printed issues under the ultra violet lamp (-); Proof of cash payment [in lieu of postage stamp] in Mariánské Lázně(-); Observations on APOST [Machine printed labels] (Rautenstrauch); The first currency reform in Czechoslovakia as reflected in philatelic documents (Hanzl).
- The Jan/Feb issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 61, Whole No 553/, Nos 1/, by courtesy of Lindy Knight. The articles include:
 - ▶ Czechoslovak Airmail to South Africa (Miskevich); Czech Official Envelopes-Revisited (Kunc); Czechoslovak Airmail Stamps of 1930 (Tekel); More Counterfeits of Postal Cards (Vlcek); Tycho Brahe 1546-1601 (van Zenten).
- The 5/6 1998 & 1/99 issues of *Merkur Review*, by courtesy of Bill Dawson. The articles include:
 - ▶ Vincent Hložník-Slovak artist (Fischer); Czech Field Post in 1938 (Palkoska); Slovenský štát 1939 overprint (Rauch); Carpatho-Ukraine Assembly (Rauch).
 - ▶ 130 Anniversary of Brno-Královo post office (Žampach); Czech Field Post Office 1919 (Vostatek); Igor Benca-a graphic artist (Fritz); "Sudeten"-German occupation of south Moravia (Dawson); Single frankings-Liberated Republic issue (Kašpar & Chavalovský).
 - ▶ Holubice [Dove] 10h zelená (Kašparovi); The post in Staré Brno (Žampach).



SOME COMMENTS ON RECENT SOCIETY AUCTIONS

Robert J Hill Honorary Society Auctioneer

Two lots - 131 and 295 were withdrawn from the November auction owing to one being of dubious origin and the other because the description was inadequate and misleading. After informing the Vendor, a member of the Society, we asked the two members who had queried the lots to write a short article for *Czechout*. At the same time we asked the vendor to make a contribution concerning these lots, after he had seen the two articles. Whilst finally, I have a query arising from the January auction.

Lot 131: Bohemia & Moravia - Pneumatic Post

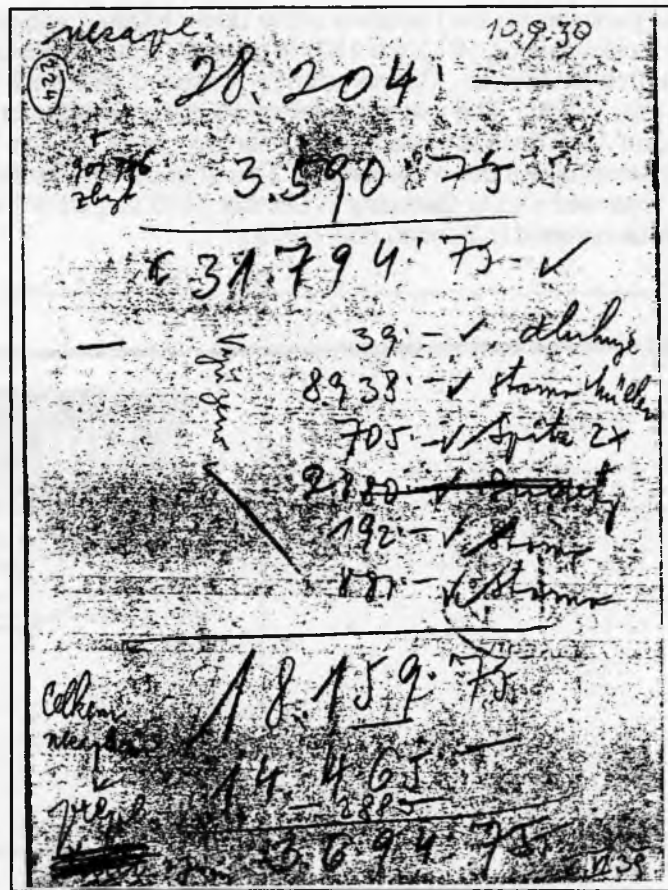
by Clyde Ziegler



The illustrated item purports to have been sent from SVITANY 1 to PRAHA 11 on II.IX.39 by Pneumatic Post. I have reservations about the authenticity of the item for the following reasons:-

1. According to Michel (unless revised in a later edition) the rate for pneumatic post was 40h, plus 50h local postage on a card. The postage rate should then have been 90h, not 1.00k. This is of course not conclusive - perhaps exact stamps were not available.
2. According to Michel, this service ceased on 1.6.39 and the service recommenced on 1.11.40 (when the cost of the service was increased to 1.00k).
3. The items in my collection have a number handstamped on the face in green ink. This was presumably for recording purposes. This number is not evident on the subject item.
4. The Pneumatic Post was essentially a local service, so it would be presumed that the postmark on the stamps should have been Praha.
5. The fact that the stamps are not tied to the cover by the postmark also makes me suspicious of the authenticity of this item.
6. The Pneumatic Post label was of the pre-war type (presumably), while my items are bilingual (German/Czech). My knowledge does not extend to the period of use of this label.
7. There is a very faint postmark on the reverse of the card. It is impossible to read the town name or the date, however the lettersERH are visible. (It should be PRAHA 11). >

All of the above indicate to me that the card cannot be authentic, and this is further compounded by the dating on the reverse of the card. There is a date of 10.9.39 at the top of the card, but at the bottom is a date V.VI.39. My suspicious mind tells me that the item was not sent through the post at all, and that the block was placed on the card at a later date.



PIŠŤ

by Rex A. Dixon

Lot 295, in the Miscellaneous section of the November auction, was withdrawn because its description was inadequate and potentially misleading. It was described thus "1923 19/3 Border Changes, pc with German stamps, CSR cds PIST, this post office was transferred to CSR from Germany, card sent to Brno."

It is in fact a backdated souvenir, of which many exist. If it had been offered as such, there would have been no problem in including it in the auction. So what is the evidence for making my assertion?

The answer can be found by looking up PÍŠŤ in *Monografie 17:1*, where it is seen that the handstamp was not introduced until 1925, that the village post office was not even renamed from Pišť to Píšť until 1925. The *Monografie* entry reads as follows:

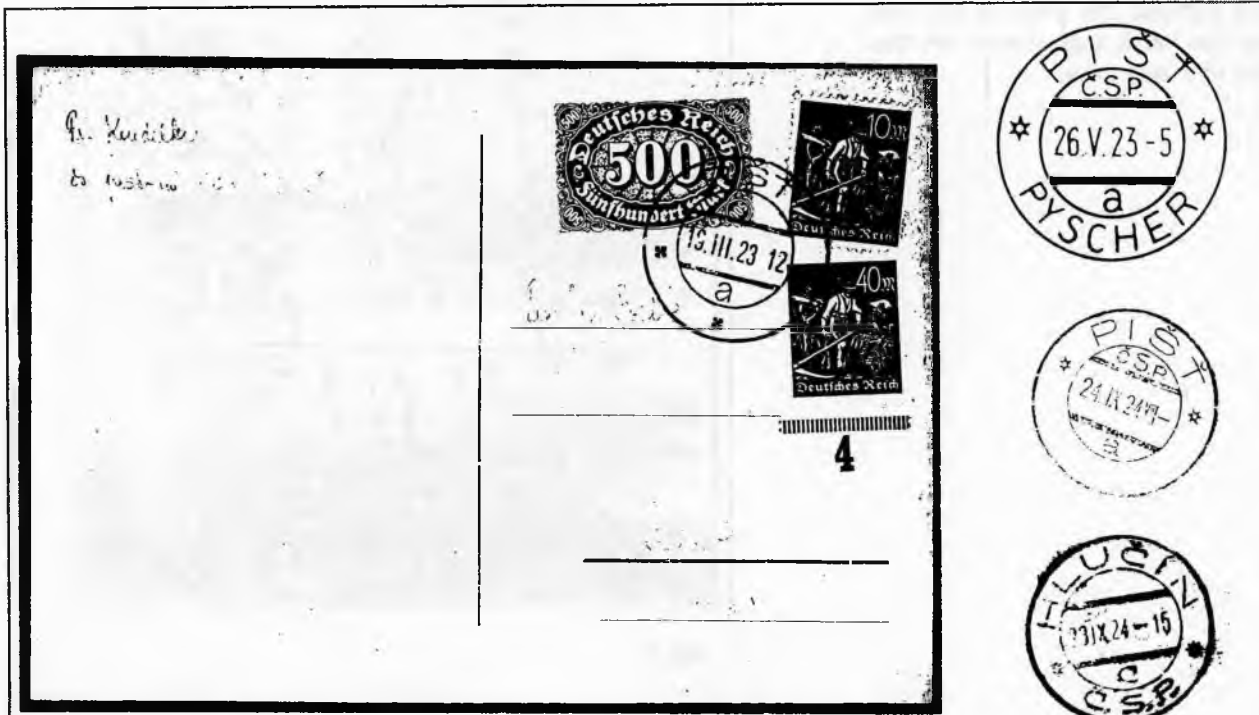
1769. PÍŠŤ

1918: Sandau (Hlučínsko), 16.3. 1923: Pišť, 1925: Píšť > 1938 > N.

1. PÍŠŤ*PYSCHER* Č.S.P. a (1923?—19..)
2. PÍŠŤ** Č.S.P. a (1923—1925)
3. PÍŠŤ*** a (1925—1938) b (1925—1938)

The first handstamp introduced after the takeover from Germany is illustrated in the *Monografie* and is reproduced below. It is dated 26.V.23 - 5. The second handstamp is shown as a receiving mark, dated 24.IX.24 VIII-, on both the front and back of a certificate of delivery of a court document (from my collection). It is probably the same handstamp as the first one with the artificial German name PYSCHER excised — the traditional German name was Sandau. The third handstamp, with revised ornaments, an acute accent on the 'i' and Č.S.P. omitted, is the one on the backdated souvenir. The second line of evidence is the 550 marks postage. The German postcard rate at the time of takeover was just 40 Mks for an inland card and 180 Mks for a foreign card. >

The story concerning the handover of the Upper Silesian villages of Sandau and Haatsch from Germany to Czechoslovakia on 16 March 1923 is given by John Whiteside in the June 1993 *Czechout* (page 29), along with a sketchmap. German stamps remained valid until 19 March, so the souvenir marks the last day of their validity. The rest of the so-called Hultschiner Ländchen (Hlučínsko) with its Czech-speaking population had been transferred in February 1920 by the Treaty of Versailles from Germany to Czechoslovakia without a plebiscite. This final border adjustment occurred in March 1923, with the whole area returning to Germany in October 1938 as part of the Sudeten settlement. The name of this post office reverted to Sandau über Ratibor.



Lístek zpáteční

Předvolání pro: *2m* Čj. *TV 35*

Příjemce: *...*

Polvrzuji svým vlastnoručním podpisem, že jsem shora označenou zásilku dnes obdržel.
 Ich bestätige mit meiner eigenhändigen Unterschrift, daß ich vorstehend bezeichnete Sendung heute erhalten habe.

..... dne 192*4*

Doručeno přísežným doručovatelem: *...*

Ježto přijetí bylo odepřeno, byla písemnost zanechána u příjemce

dne

Ježto příjemce nedal zašlepnout náhradné doručení nemohlo být provedeno, byla písemnost uložena u obecního úřadu ve

a příjemce o tom písemně zpraven.



16 Jedn. ř. vzor č. 66 a. (Doručení s lístkem zpátečním, § 80 tr. ř., nař. min. práv ze dne 15. dubna 1902, ř. z. č. 74, vñ. min. práv ze dne 1. srpna 1904, č. 14891, a nař. min. práv ze dne 12. prosince 1912, věst. č. 64.)

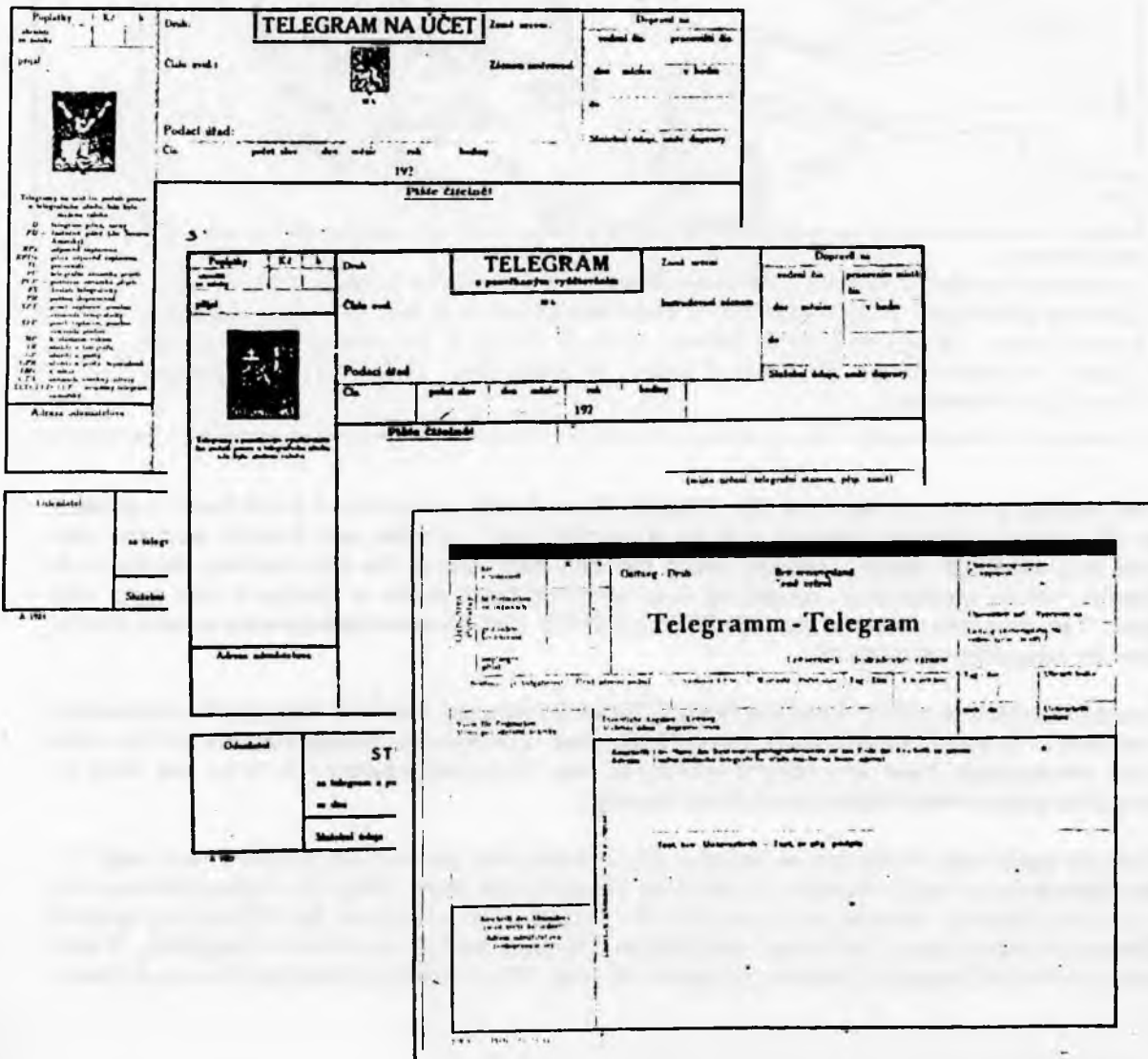
The Vendor's Comments By Tom Morovics

Regarding Lot 131: The card comes from a large collection of overprint flaws on the stamps of the Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia, which formed part of the late Jack Stoyal's collection sold by Phillips a few years ago in London. What is important on this card, is a scarce missing "u" plate flaw. The reserve or starting price for this lot was the current market price for the stamp only with this flaw. So the price of the card is made by that stamp with this flaw, and not by the prospective sending by pneumatic post. But I must agree that this card was not sent by pneumatic post - therefore this is only a card with a good stamp on it, and with a pneumatic label, probably added later. My description was not good, that is true, but the price was OK.

With reference to Lot 295: It seems that Rex Dixon is right, I had not known about it. The card looks to me philatelic, that is why the starting price is very low. If non-philatelic, the card would have had the starting price approximately £150. Anyway I am sorry that my descriptions of these two items are not perfect, amongst some 300 lots that I sent to you, I am sorry to say there are some things that could have been overlooked. Because the pressure about Praga '98 is now over, I will be able to spend more time on preparing descriptions of lots for future auctions.

January Auction Lot 139 Telegram Forms

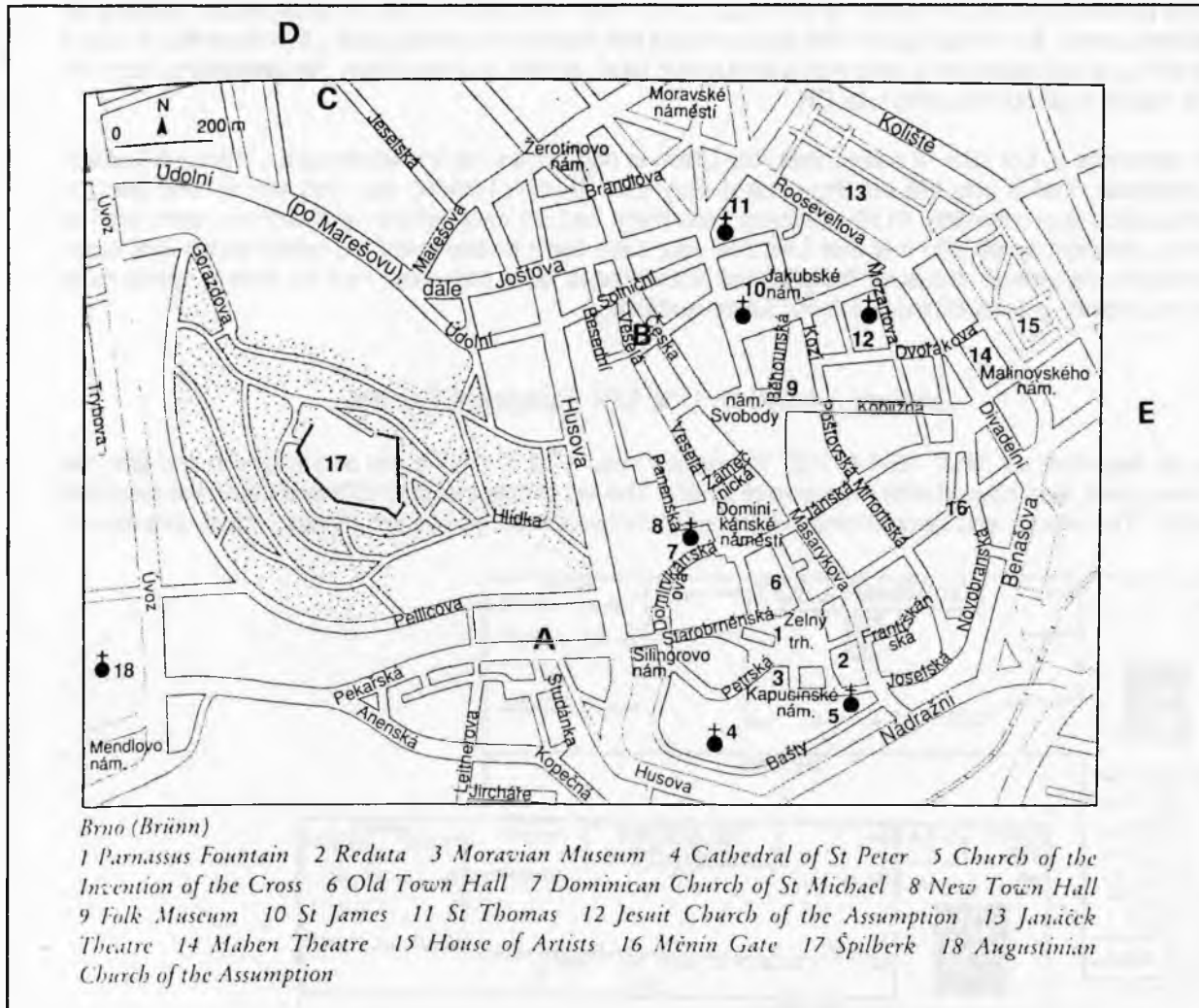
This lot described as 1913, 1924 & 1927 Telegram Form, CTU 3, CTU 4 and one in Czech and German uncatalogued, was offered with a reserve of £1.50. The list of bids included £75 and £400, the item sold for £80. The vendor and I would love to know what makes this lot so special; please write in and tell us.



THE STAMP SHOPS OF BRNO

- Robert J. Hill -

Sat in my room of the Continental hotel, I pored over the copy of Zlaté Stránky (yellow pages) concentrating on the entries for "Filatelie", the five entries were transferred to my map of Brno and not one of the shops is near to another.



After the first day at work, I called in at Klim Filatelie (B) on Česká, except that it is not there, it appears to use this prestige address although it is on a parallel road. A warm and friendly welcome was received as I identified myself, probably being the only recipient of the Klim auction catalogue in Manchester. Much quality stock caught my eye, including black prints of Hradcany and early mint multiples. Two complete sheets of the JEN PRO SLAVKOV 1945 liberation issues were a good start to my quest for new philatelic material.

In the sultry weather the walk to Brno Fila Bláha (C) took 30 minutes, had I not stopped for a refreshing bottle of Mattoni it would probably have taken 15 minutes. I received a friendly welcome in this small shop but unfortunately there was little of interest to me, the owner advised me to try the shop on Rybkova (this was my next intended port of call anyway).

A 10 minute uphill walk found me at Midofila (D), perhaps the previous shop owner had rung, the welcome was as warm as the weather. A seat was offered and a trawl through the boxes of covers and cards for my collecting interests took us both 20 minutes. We discussed the forthcoming general election and my travel plans, the owner has promised to send me his next auction catalogue. If your interests are Postal Stationery Cards or Carpatho Ukraine, this is definitely the place for you. A total >

spend of 280 Kč on 1945 liberation overprint covers was not punitive. The advice to call at a local book shop which had a philatelic map for sale was gratefully received, the shop was on the way back to the Continental hotel and the Midofila intelligence was good. I bought MAPA POŠTOVNÍCH KURSŮ V ČECÁCH, 1:400,000, VYDALO MINISTERSTVO POŠT U TELEGRAFŮ, Die Stavu 1 Května 1926 which shows:

- ▶ post, telegraph and sub post offices
- ▶ rivers and lakes
- ▶ railway lines with distances and post and telegraph stations indicated
- ▶ the nine area post offices with lists of satellite offices
- ▶ enhanced detail of the areas of Praha, Jablonec and Most

This map will provide much interest for years to come, opened out the size is 1 metre x .75 metres so it is too big to frame.

Work really seemed to drag on day two, I finished at 1630 and headed for Klub Filatelistů Alfonse Muchy on Plynářská (E), this is definitely on the wrong side of town and I was pleased to be in a car. The adress was found but did not look promising so I drove to Filatelie Hobby on Pekařská (A), this is just round the corner from the imposing and chilling Spilberk Castle. The shop was closed but a sign in the window told me it had been relocated 50 metres distant on the other side of the road. The knowledgeable young lady was extremely patient and helpful in searching for suitable material.

QUERY

When Hans Klein kindly loaned his collection of 1943 material to Alec Page during the preparation for Monograph 10. Alec and I noticed that some of this material had once belonged to our first Society Treasurer, K.Eisner. He later changed his name to Elder and moved to Canada. In the Royal Philatelic Society records I discovered a K. Elder who became a member 8/6/1944, a fellow in 1951, being sponsored by Sir John Wilson and R.F.Riesco, a year after the 1943 Exhibition. My query for the Society records - was this our first Honorary Treasurer? CWS

BOOK REVIEW

Československé Poštovní Známký 1918-1939 a Jejich Padělky by Jan Karásek, published by Merkur Revue, Česka 19-21 CZ-660 31 Brno 2, Czech Republic. ISBN 80-238-2626-3. A4, 250pp, price £20.

This review is also being published in The Philatelic Exporter - January 1999.

Despite the long Czech title this is a very useful book and easy to use, as it is in several languages - Czech, English and German. The title in English is "Czechoslovak Postage Stamps and their Forgeries 1918-1939. A book on Czechoslovak forgeries was issued in 1963, of which one of the authors was also Jan Karásek, the well known Czech expert, but there were only resumés in foreign languages.

This new publication is not only fully trilingual, but it also brings all the knowledge up-to-date. It is easy to use because almost all the forgeries are shown enlarged with clear indications of how to identify them. A very important work for the specialised collector, and a bargain at that price.

Otto Hornung

Members wishing to obtain a copy of this publication would they please send their orders to Robert Kingsley, 6, Fenn Close, Bromley, Kent, BR1 4DX.

POSTAL EVOLUTION IN THE HLUČÍN REGION FROM PRESTAMP ERA TO 1973

-Viktor Jindra-

Translated by V.J.Králiček

Poštovní Razítka Hlučínska was specially written for the handbook of the International Exhibition of Postage Stamps held in Opava in 1974. *This is one of a number of articles that Pan Tomas Morovics has kindly sent us for publication. Whilst we understand that some of the authors are dead or the publications of organisations are now non-existent, if we have inadvertently infringed or trespassed on copyright we duly apologise.*

The Hlučín region

This area was part of the Opava principality and together they formed part of the Bohemian Crown lands. After the death of Charles VI, the battle for the Austrian Succession began. Bavarian and French forces forayed into Bohemia and the Prussian king Frederick attempted to win Silesia. After the Prussian victory in 1742, as a consequence of the Berlin Peace Treaty Austria lost almost all of the Upper and Lower Silesia as well as the Kladno region. This left Austria only with the larger part of the Opava-Krnov and the Těšín principalities. The Hlučín region was given to Prussia. Following the Seven Year War, peace was concluded in 1763 which confirmed loss of the major part of Silesia for good. From that time, the Hlučín region was part of the Prussian controlled district of Opolí.

The Hlučín region measures in all, 320Km² and in 1919 it had, beside the town of Hlučín, 38 villages -all of which had at that time a population of 52,000 inhabitants, of whom 4,500 lived in Hlučín itself. It is interesting to know that the Hlučín region inhabitants remained "Moravian" even through the entire germanisation, and at the 1913 census only 13% of the population owned to the German language being their mother language. This fact was the main reason that Hlučín was in February 1920 joined to Czechoslovakia – Article 83 of the Versailles Treaty. Up to 9 January 1921 people living in the Hlučín region had the right to opt for Germany. About 5,000 people took advantage of that and moved to Germany. In 1921, 83% of the people owned to Czech as being their mother language and 16% to German. On 16 March 1923 an additional part of the Hlučín region, containing the villages of Hať and Pišť, was joined to the Czechoslovak Republic.

After the Munich Ultimatum the Hlučín region reverted to Germany and was taken over by the Germans on 8 October 1938. At the beginning of May 1945, the Hlučín region was liberated by the Soviet Army and from that time was again an integral part of our State. For us, the philatelists, the interest was above all in the postal activity in this territory. For a better review of the postal activity in the Hlučín region I am categorising it after individual historical and philatelic periods.

1. Prussian Post:-
 - a) Prestamp era, from earliest time to 14.11.1850.
 - b) Period of introducing the Prussian stamps, 15.11.1850 to 31.12.1867.
2. Part of the North German Postal Union, 1.1.1868 to 31.12.1871.
3. German Imperial Post, 1.1.1872 to 9.11.1918.
4. German Republic Post, 10.11.1918 to 3.2.1920.
5. Upper Silesia Post, 12.2.1920 to 9.7.1922.
6. Czechoslovak Post, 4.2.1920 to 7.10.38.
7. Nazi Germany post, 8.10.1938 to May 1945.
8. Czechoslovak post, May 1945 to the present day.

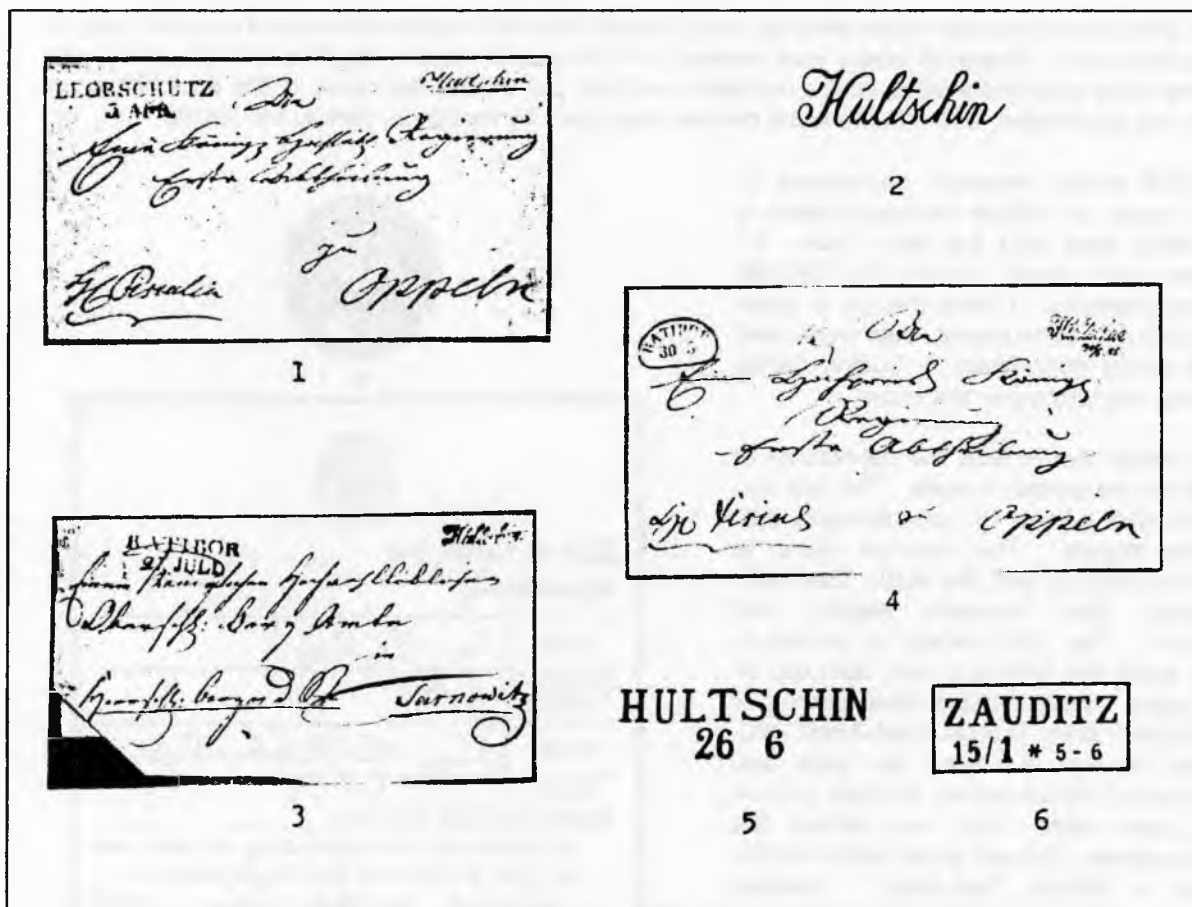
Prussian Post: a) Prestamp era

According to Eduard Kutsche (post geschichte von Schlesien bis zum Jahre 1766) in 1752 a collection centre was established in Hlučín; it was subordinate to the Post Office in Hlubčice (Leobschütz) today known as Glubczice in Poland. From Hlubčice to Hlučín and back the postal delivery was carried by messengers on foot. From 1824 the Hlučín collection centre was subordinate to the Post Office in Ratiboř and the post from Hlučín was not carried to Hlubčice but went by stagecoach via Pišť to Ratiboř. According to Augusta Wetzela (Besiedlung des nördlich der Oppa gelegenen Landes, published in 1890 in Hlubčice) on 1 May 1847, the railway line Bohumín – Ratiboř began to operate and post from Hlučín was conveyed to the railway station in Prussian Bohumín (Preussich Oderberg) later renamed Annaberg and today Chalupki in Poland. Connection with Bohumín station was four >

times per week by a personal courier. On 1 October 1850 this connection was terminated and a daily "kariol" post was introduced instead, without the passenger service; on the same day the post stagecoach from Ratiboř via Pišť to Hlučín was terminated.

Letters sent from 1752 from the Hlučín post office were not cancelled or otherwise marked, so it is only possible to ascertain their origin from the contents of the letters or from the sender's address. Only in 1819/20 were letters marked by the postal centre in the upper right corner; if the letters were prepaid they were marked in red ink "Hultschin", and in black ink if the letter was not prepaid and the postal fee was to be collected from the addressee. The letters were then cancelled by the main post office in Leobschütz (Hlubčice), in cases where the letters were submitted for further transmission (1).

However, already by October 1820 the first postmarks can be found on letters sent from the Hlučín postal collection centre. It is a handwritten single line "Hultschin" (2); even on these letters, in the left upper corner, is the Leobschütz main post office cachet. Letters sent from the Hlučín collection centre from 1842 do not have the LEOBSCHÜTZ postmark, but that of RATIBOR. It can be either in a single line or an arced postmark (3, 4).

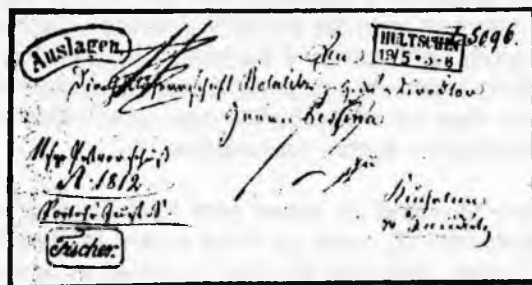


As from 1825 there is always underneath the Hlučín collection centre postmark written in red or black ink, the date of posting, i.e. the day, month and year.

From January 1826, the Hlučín collection centre becomes a postal despatch department that is also reflected in a new single line cachet HULTSCHIN with the day and month but without the year (5). Letters now do not have the postmark of the Ratiboř post office. The line postmark remained in use for some time after the introduction of Prussian postage stamps.

On 1 September 1848 a postal despatch department was established in Sudice (Zauditz), which was supplied with an oblong boxed postmark ZAUDITZ with the day and month but without the year on the right side of the postmark. Later on this cancellation also shows the time of posting in hours. On the left side is the date, on the right side the time (6).

Also known is an official letter, sent in 1822 from Chuchelné (Kuchelna), which is addressed to Hlubčice and has, in the upper right corner, in red ink marked by hand "v Kuchelna". A similar letter was shown to me recently, which was marked by hand in black ink "Kuchelna". Official letters were marked by hand at the despatching office, such as "Portofreie Justiz Sache", or "Militaria" and similar.



7

On some private, and also occasional official letters, can be found an orange "Auslagen" (7). Letters marked with this postmark were those that the postman was supposed to obtain from the addressee the sum indicated on the letter. It was something like today's "Cash on Delivery, i.e. C.O.D. article". The sender then received from the post office the money paid against the receipt.

At that time parcel despatch notes were not used; instead despatch letters were used in a similar way to the Austrian post. Despatch letters were handed in at the postal counter together with the parcel and the post office attached a label, with a number in red ink, but without the name of the Post Office. A similar, but larger label, and with the same number was glued by the postal clerk to the parcel.

The chief postal despatch department in Hlučín used for official correspondence a post office seal with the text: - "Kön. Pr. Postwart Amt (Royal crown) HULTSCHIN and the posthorn. I have this on a cover from 1846 (8). What postal seals were used at the postal department in Sudice during that time, regretfully I do not know.



8

Here I would like to take the opportunity to talk about the postal receipts. The first two receipts that I know of are stamped with revenue stamps. The revenue stamp is printed at the top with the text: - "Zwei silb. Groschen (the Prussian eagle), and posthorn". The 1829 receipt is printed in black, whilst the 1839 is in red; both are on grey paper. Both receipts have printed at the bottom "Königl. Preuss. Post-Amt" (8a). Another receipt is meant for post free forwarding of official money, in black print on grey paper dated 1842 and without the revenue stamp. Printed at the bottom of this receipt is "Königl. Post-Amt". Another receipt is of larger format printed on yellowish paper; it again has a preprinted two silver groschen revenue stamp and is from 1846. This again has the printed title "Königl. Post-Amt". A further receipt is from 18 May 1850, hence from the prestamp era, without the revenue stamp, in black print on white paper. This has "Königl. Post" and handwritten "Comptoir", only printed at the bottom.

Das am heutigen Tage	
Gegenstand	<i>Post</i>
Inhalt	<i>2. 1/2 19 1/2 2. 1/2</i>
Zeichen und Gewicht	<i>1 1/2</i>
Adressat	<i>Louise Obale G. Salars. Carl</i>
Bestimmungsort	<i>Kuhilob</i>

zur Beförderung mit der Post richtig eingeliefert worden, wird hierdurch von Amts wegen bescheinigt.
Hullschin den *24ten July* 1829
 Königl. Preuss. Post-Amt.
Post-Amt
Comptoir

8 a

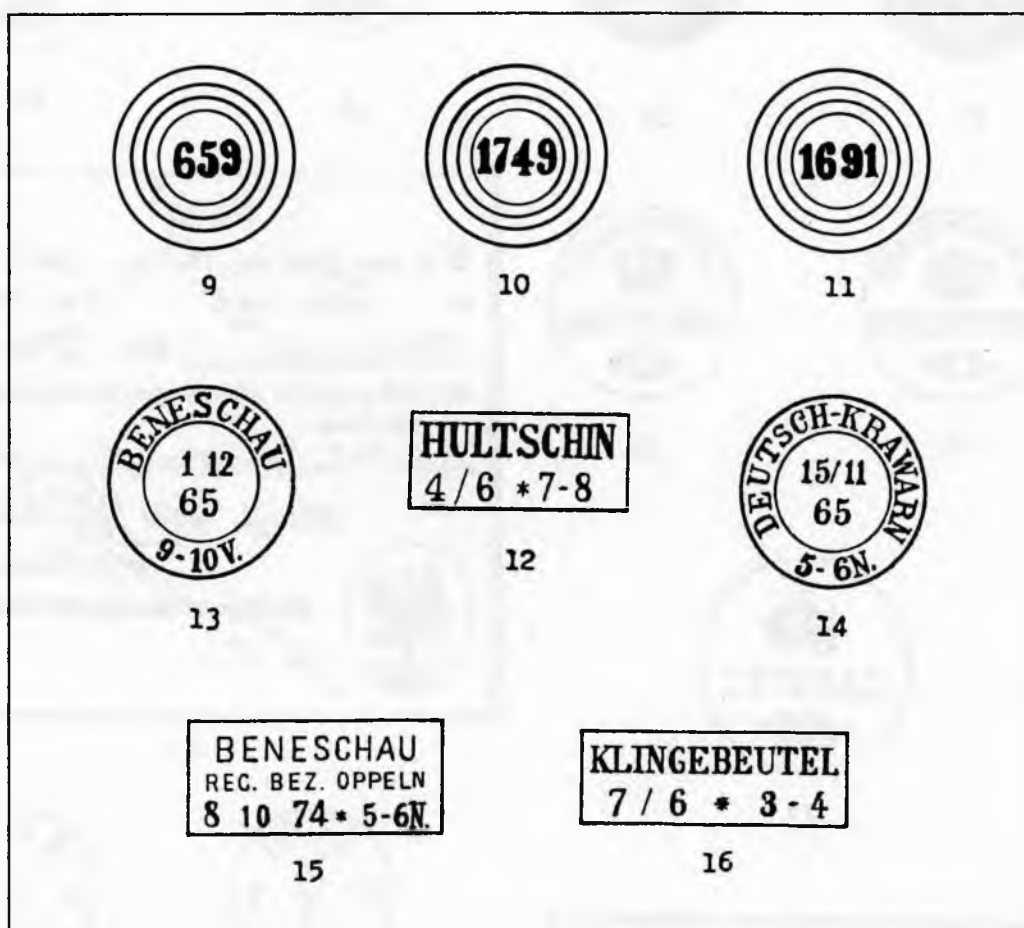
Letters sent from Austria and addressed to Prussian Silesia were at times directed via Hlučín. In Hlučín such letters were marked on the address side with the cachet HULTSCHIN, as a transit postmark. In my collection I have such a letter dated 1846 and addressed to Tamowitz. >

Prussian Post:- b) After the introduction of Prussian postage stamps

On 15 November 1850 Prussia introduced for the purpose of paying the postal fee, postage stamps. The Post Offices received at the same time as the postage stamps, special four-circle handstamps which had, in the inner circle, the post office number. The Prussian stamps were supposed to be franked solely by these four circle handstamps in such a way so that each stamp was marked by the whole canceller. Also beside the attached stamp the post office was to place a cachet with the place name and date. On 1 April 1859 this directive was cancelled and stamps from this era were franked only by a handstamp with the place name and date.

On 1 April 1852 another despatch centre was established in Pusté Jakartice (Klingebeutel). Only three postal despatch departments used the four-circle numbered handstamps in the Hlučín region:- Hultschin with number 659, Klingebeutel with number 1749 and Zauditz with number 1691 (9, 10, 11).

The postal despatch department in Hlučín used for some time the prestamp era line postmark HULTSCHIN with the day and month, which was later changed to an oblong boxed handstamp (12). On 1 March 1863 a personal postal delivery was again introduced from Hlučín to the railway station in Prussian Bohumín and that twice daily.



On 16 January 1864 another despatch centre Class II (postal Bulletin No.1 from 16 January), was established in Benešov (Beneschau) and in August 1865 also in Kravaře (Deutsch Krawarn) (Bulletin No.38 from 19 August). Both offices were equipped with double circle postal handstamps of the standard Prussian type (13, 14). Already in 1867 the Postal despatch department in Benešov used a new oblong handstamp (15). The postal despatch department in Pusté Jakartice was assigned an oblong handstamp, 35x12mm (16). In 1863 the handstamp was changed for one with the dimension of 39x12mm (27). Registered letters were marked with a single line postmark "Recommandirt" in a decorative frame, in black or red.

>

Types of postmarks:

1. Seal labels – black/white, with inscriptions:-
 - a) KÖN PR. POST – COMTOIR (crown) HULTSCHIN post horn (17).
 - b) KÖN-PR. POST-EXP. (crown) ZAUDITZ post horn (18).
2. Single circle postmarks.
 - a) K.PR.POST-EXPED. (crown) HULTSCHIN post horn. (19)
 - b) K.PR.POST-EXPED. (crown) BENESCHAU post horn (20)
 - c) K.PR.POST-EXPED. (crown) DEUTSCH KRAWARN post horn (21)
 - d) K.PR.POST-EXPED. (crown) KLINGEBEUTEL post horn (22).
3. Single circle postmark, without an inscription
 - a) Crown/ ZAUDITZ / post horn (23).



17



18



19



20



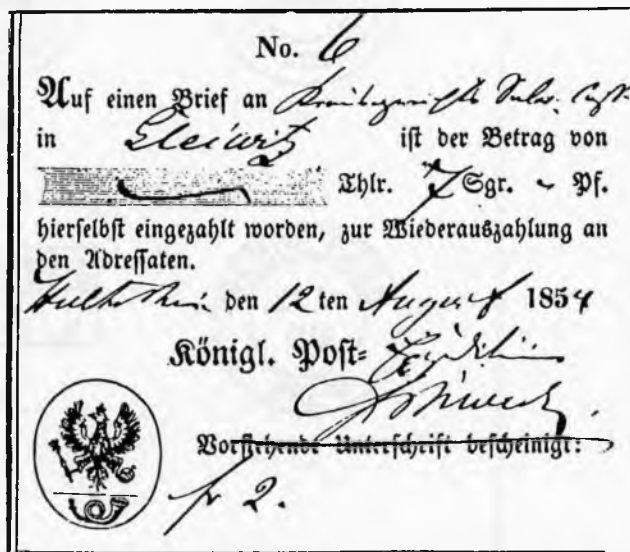
21



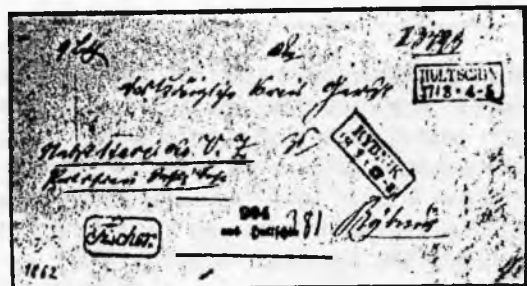
22



23



25



24



26



27

Official mail consignments were marked in same way as previously; however, the handstamps showed the name of the official responsible for the information given. The letter accompanying the parcel (instead of today's despatch note) had a label glued on. The first labels had a red number and in black print "aus Hultschin"; later labels had both the number and text in black colour. Smaller labels were used on the accompanying letter and larger ones on the parcels (24).

Postal receipts exist in black on white or in red on yellowish paper. Both receipts are without the revenue stamp (25). The postal despatch centre in Hlučín completed the receipt in pen and used postal handstamps, on the other hand, the postal despatch centre in Pusté Jakartice stamped the receipt with a postal handstamp – without the date.

It is also necessary to mention the so-called arrival postmarks, which were stamped on the reverse side of the letter. So far I have ascertained, on letters addressed to the Hlučín region, the following arrival postmarks:-

1. Letter from Hlučín to Šilheřovic from 1855.
2. Letter from Hlučín to Bolatic from 1867.
3. Letter from Presslau to Šilheřovic from 1865
4. Letter from Hlučín to Šilheřovic from 1867 (26).

The Prussian Royal Post ended its activity after joining the North German Confederation and the stamps of Prussia lost their validity on 31 December 1867.

The Post of the North German Confederation

The postal service of the North German Confederation began on the 1 January 1868. As from that day only its stamps were valid in the Hlučín region. Mixed franking of the Prussian stamps with those of the North German Confederation theoretically does not exist, since the Prussian stamps were not valid from the 1 January 1868.

For the whole period of existence of this postal confederation, no new Post Offices were established in the Hlučín region. In August 1868 a twice daily, morning and afternoon carrier post was introduced from Hlučín to Pruský Bohumín.

Prussian postal cancellations remained in usage, without any modifications. At that time the following Prussian postmarks were used:

1. BENESCHAU, oblong handstamp (15)
2. DEUTSCH KRAWARN, double circle handstamp (14)
3. KLINGEBEUTEL, oblong handstamp (27).
4. HULTSCHIN, oblong handstamp (12).
5. ZAUDITZ, handstamp (6).

For official mail consignments the North German Confederation issued official stamps. Letters prepaid with the official stamps and originating from the Hlučín region are relatively rare! Also all types of postmarks as well as the receipt forms from the Prussian Royal Post period were used without any change. The post of the North German Confederation ended its activity after only four years, on 31 December 1871. In 1872 the German Empire was established and in all the German States, with the exception of Bavaria and Württemberg, the German Empire Post was introduced.

To be continued...

UNCOMMON USE OF SOLO 25¢ PREXIE—1948 EMERGENCY SERVICE TO PALESTINE

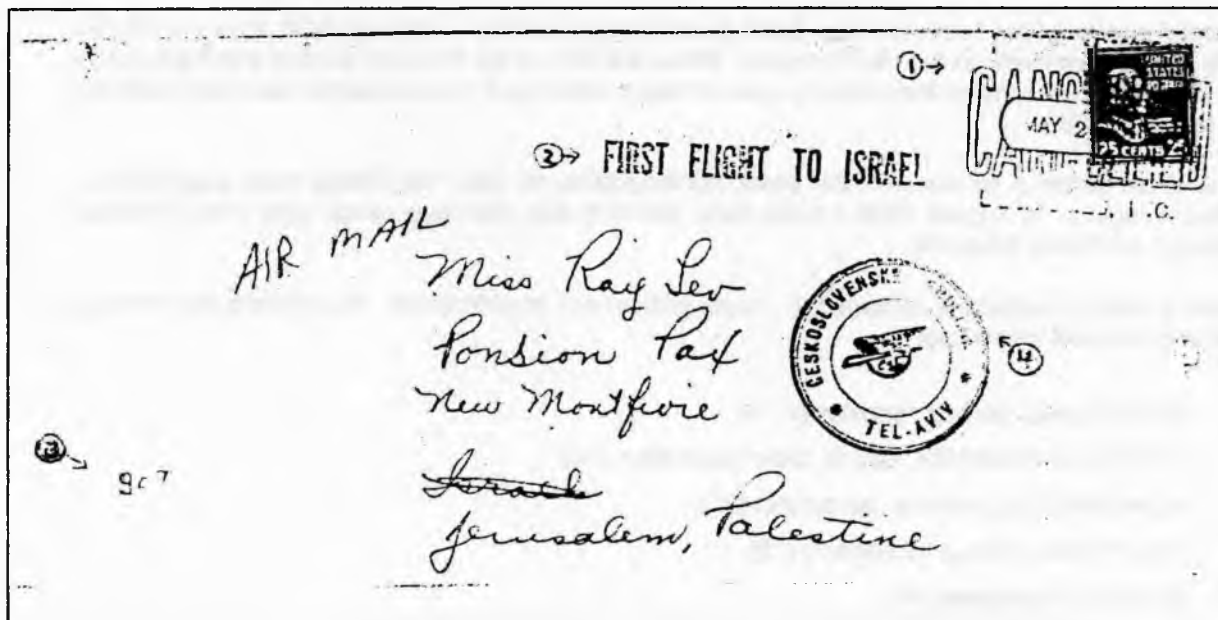
-Jeffrey N Shapiro-

We thank Jeff Shapiro and George Sioras, Editor of the Bulletin of the Metropolitan Air Post Society for permission to publish this article which appeared in Vol. 13 No 2, April-June 1998 issue of The Bulletin.

Due to worsening conditions in the Arab/Israeli struggle, the United States Post Office suspended surface mail to Palestine at the end of March 1948. When "disturbed conditions" threatened air fields, air mail service was also suspended on 27 April 1948. Because of the importance of mail connections with the outside world, the New York-based Jewish Agency for Palestine, the unofficial embassy in America for the soon-to-be-established State of Israel, immediately proposed that mail destined for Palestine be collected in New York City and shipped as air freight.

Discussions began with KLM but switched to CSA (Československé Aerolinie) when that airline was the first to be granted landing rights by the newly-created State of Israel. With CSA ready to fly freight into Israel, and with a great demand for the proposed service, the Jewish Agency and other American Zionist organisations moved quickly to establish the Palestine Emergency Deliveries, Inc. (PEDI).

Procedures were relatively simple. Mail destined for Israel was sent to PEDI's office in Manhattan under separate cover, franked with US stamps paying the then current 25¢ per half ounce international air rate to Asia and the Middle East. An additional 25¢ per half ounce was paid in cash or by money order to PEDI. These procedures were in full compliance with US Postal Regulations; any private carrier could accept mail provided that the proper postage had been paid.



(1) Private PEDI cancel, 21 May 1948. (3) PEDI control number
(2) Handstamp used on first PEDI mail. (4) CSA receiving mark (actually Haifa, Tel Aviv closed).

The first shipment was processed by PEDI personnel on 20-21 May. A few days later (date, air carrier and route are undocumented) the PEDI shipment left New York for Rome where it was impounded by Italian Custom officials. On 2 June a pouch containing about 1,200 PEDI letters was released to the crew of a CSA Dakota airliner, en route to Haifa via Athens. Upon arrival in Haifa that same evening, airline employees applied the CSA/Tel Aviv receiving mark to PEDI letters, even though the Tel Aviv airport was closed because of hostilities. The 1,200 letters came as a complete surprise to the newly established Israeli Post Office. It was assumed that air mail service from the United States had resumed and the PEDI mail was promptly delivered.

>

About 10,000 letters were delivered by PEDI and CSA through 7 June, on paper the date when official air mail service between the US and Israel was re-established. (Actual service did not resume until 28 June). PEDI continued to transmit mail well into July 1948. It is estimated that over 26,000 pieces of mail were processed before PEDI ended its services.

References:

Shamir, Chaim & Siegel, Marvin. *Air Mail Postal Services From Abroad in May and Early June 1948*, Holy Land Postal History XXVIII, Autumn 1986, pp. 375-397.

Shamir, Chaim & Siegel, Marvin. *The Emergency Mails in 1948: Part B Palestine Emergency Deliveries, Inc (PEDI)*. Holy Land Postal History XXXI, Summer 1987, pp. 527-553.

AN INTERESTING SOUVENIR CARD

-Colin D Smith-

I have come across the following souvenir card from Bohemia and Moravia which I think members may find interesting.



The reverse of the souvenir card (Translated by Robert Kingsley) reads "We are anxious to offer our young ones to the altar of our beloved Czech land, liberty and freedom will return again and will be achieved by blood and steel."

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 Clyde Ziegler's query in Czechout 4/98 page 98.

From John Whiteside, David Williams & Jan Dobrovolný: The item is a local letter of over 20g. weight, so postage was 1.10k. and double deficiency 2.20k as Clyde as stated. The envelope was put into the letter-box, recognised as invalid at the post office and both stamps have been outlined correctly in blue crayon, and levied as deficiency. [The two postage due stamps were valid until 15.12.39].

The Michel Osteuropa and Trojan catalogues show that:- [a] - the 50h Beneš, issued 27/5/1936, was invalidated Mi: 31/1/1938/Tr: 15.2.38. [b] - the 1k. + 50h Charity stamp and the two other stamps in the same set, issued 1/5/1937, were invalidated Mi: 31/12/1937/Tr: 20.1.38.

Four new queries:

From Richard Beith: a) PO Box 226, London is a relatively well known WWII address for mail coming to Czechoslovak troops from abroad. PO Box 281 was similarly allocated to the Czechoslovak Air Force in the UK. Was this box number ever used? Have members seen any covers so addressed?

b) It was stated in CsPSGB Monograph 1 that the ship carrying the records of the Czechoslovak Military Post in France was sunk by enemy submarine during the escape to England in late June/early July 1940. Have any members seen documentary evidence for this story? Does anyone know the name of the ship?



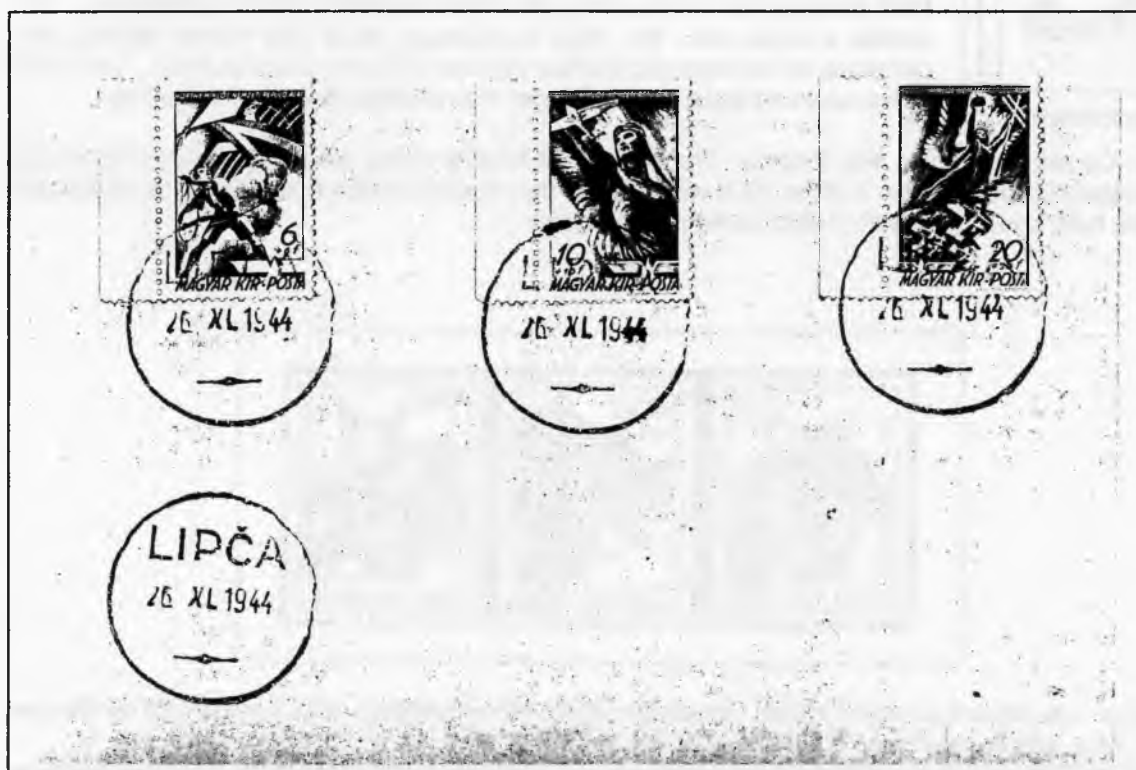
c) The illustration shows a cover sent to Lisbon bearing the correct 5d air mail rate, postmarked on 9 AUG 1943 when the CS Field Post was in the Dovercourt, Essex, area. It has Lisbon machine backstamps for 19 and 20 August 1943. Could the 41 Rua Artilharia Um 20 destination be an 'undercover address' for communicating with Bohemia and Moravia? This address does not appear on any published list of such Lisbon houses. >

d) Does anyone know anything about these patriotic labels for the Czechoslovak Club, Newcastle? World War II presumably but which Newcastle? Upon-Tyne, under-Lyme, Co. Down or further afield?

The left hand example has a red background, the right hand deep blue. The British and Czechoslovak flags are in colour.



From Bob Hill: Where is (or was) Lipča, I can find no reference at all. The Eastern front Liberation map shows Dargov - it is a south eastern suburb of Košice - being liberated on that day, otherwise nothing. Help please.



NEW ISSUES

Lindy Knight

Unless otherwise stated, the stamps and stationery for the Czech and Slovak Republics are printed by Post Printing House Prague.

Printing R.D. = rotary die stamping combined with multicolour photogravure
 D.S. = die stamping from flat plates
 R.D.+ D.S. = combination of both techniques

1. Czech Republic

20.1.99

TRADITION OF CZECH STAMP PRODUCTION



Designer: Bedřich Housa **Engraver:** Bedřich Housa (stamp) Pavel Kovářik (label).

Printing: R.D. in sheets of 30 in dark blue, red, light green and gold. Picture size 23x40mm

Design: Taken from the 1929 issue "Castles, Countryside and Towns" The original 2.50Kč stamp shows the Prague statute of St. Wenceslas with the National Museum in the background. The design was from an original water colour by Jaroslav Šetelík and engraving by the French craftsman Abel Mignon. Above the design is the text (in Czech) "Tradition of Czech Stamp Production" and below the names of the original artist and engraver.

The label design is a corner of a perforate stamp with silhouette of Brno and the legend Brno 2000. This is the logo of the Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Brno in March 2000. The labels are only available from the booklets issued to publicise the Exhibition.

FDC printed D.S. in blue-black with commemorative Praha cancellation. The cachet is taken from the 1928 Anniversary issue 2Kč stamp showing the cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul with the Bishop's Court in Brno. The 1928 stamp was engraved by K. Seizinger from original artwork by J. Šetelík.

Booklet: Contains 8 stamps and 4 labels. The front of the booklet cover has a larger copy of the FDC cachet in grey-black and logo of Brno 2000 with copy of the original 2.50Kč Praha stamp in dark blue-grey. The back cover gives information about the Exhibition.

17.2.99

CATS



Designers: Libuše and Jaromír Knotek. **Engraver:** Martin Srb **Printing:** R.D. in sheets of 50 stamps in black, blue, ochre, red-brown, brown, grey-green and grey. Picture size 23x30mm.

Designs: **4.60Kč** A tom-cat entitled "A funny fellow". FDC printed in DS in brown with commemorative Praha cancellation. The cachet has a cat with kitten. **5 Kč** A cat with kitten. FDC printed DS in brown with commemorative Praha cancellation. The cachet has two kittens watching a butterfly **7Kč** Two cats. FDC printed DS in black with commemorative Praha cancellation. The cachet shows two kittens.

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Postal Stationery

Commemorative Postcards for Praga 1998

The following issues exist with commemorative cancellations

11.3.98	Cancellation 10.9.98	Post Museum Praha 7
11.3.98	Cancellation 10.9.98	Trade Fair Palace Praha 015
1.7.98	Cancellation 12.9.98	Balloon Flight Praha 7
1.7.98	Cancellation 12.9.98	SCF, FIP and FEPA Congress Praha 1
1.7.98	Cancellation 13.9.98	Postal History and Post Museum Praha 1
1.7.98	Cancellation 13.9.98	Stagecoach Post Praha 1

(See Czechout 2/98 pages 53/54 and Czechout 3/98 page 77 for details of the postcards)

Promotional Postcards

The following cards have an imprinted 6Kč stamp design which was first issued 27.5.98 (See Czechout 3/98 page 76)

3.6.98 promoting Nitra Fila '98 and Praga 1998. The cachet is a drawing of the walled castle buildings with the text in Slovak "Medzinarodna Vystava Postovych Znamok a Salon Fillatelie / 3.6-7.6. 1998" A red balloon with text "Nitra Fila '98" and a black balloon with text "Praga 1998 Zdravi Nitrafilu '98" rise above the castle drawing.

23.7.98 To promote Singpex '98. Cachet design is an outline of a perforate stamp with a tiger and the text "12th Asian International Philatelic Exhibition. 23-26 July 1998. Singapore"

28.8.98 To promote the 50th International Stamp Exhibition held at Riccione from 28-30 August 1998. Cachet design is an outline of a perforate stamp coloured blue and yellow with the word "Europa" on a flag.

12.9.98 With commemorative Praha 7 cancellation. The cachet depicts a participant in the Olympic Games with the Olympic flag and stadium in the background and text "1928 IX Olympiade Amsterdam" Marginal texts in Czech have the date "12.9.98" in black "Olympic Day" in silver and in yellow-orange "Olympic Winner Ladislav Vácha" and in black "gymnast".

23.10.98 Advertising the International Stamp Bourse Sindelfingen '98. The cachet is a stagecoach pulled by two horses with outrider.

23.10.98 Advertising the World Philatelic Exhibition Italia '98 held in Milan from 23.10.98-1.11.98. The cachet is a bi-plane with marginal inscriptions in Italian.

5.11.98 Promoting the Stamp Forum '98 and the 11. International Stamp Fair 5-8 November 1998 in Denmark. The cachet is a stamp showing racing bicyclists. The marginal texts are in Danish.

For current postal use

The following cards have an imprinted 4Kč stamp design first issued 26.3.97 (see Czechout 2/97 page 50).

2.9.98 Josef Lada Exhibition held at the Riding School Prague Castle from 2 September to 29 November 1998. The cachet shows a postman in the style of Lada with the artist's name. A commemorative Praha 012 Hrad was used on 2.9.98.

10.9.98 Children's Art and Design Competition held as part of the events for the Philatelic Exhibition Praga '98. The cachet is one of the winning designs by Jana Štěpánová aged 17 from Prague. A commemorative cancellation was used on 1.9.98 from Praha 7 with the text "Dětská Pošta"

>

18.12.98 "80 Years of Czechoslovak Stamps". The cachet is a reproduction of the 5h green "Hradčany" issue with bilingual Praha 12 cancellation dated 18.12.18. The text "80 Years of Czechoslovak Stamps" in the Czech language and dates "1918" and "1998" complete the design.

4.1.99 This issue is similar in design to that issued on 26.3.97 with imprinted 4Kč stamp. The pearl strip and logo of the Czech Post Office have been replaced with a new security device in the form of a hologram next to the frames for the sender's postcode. The hologram is multi-coloured and has the logo of the Czech Post Office alternating with a flying pigeon. The selling price is 4.70Kč.

N.B. The 5th edition of Czech Historical Buildings Postcards (see Czechout 3/98 page 78) was issued on 29.6.98.



2. Slovak Republic

18.12.98 **HISTORY OF THE POST SERVICE (Series "Stamp Day")**



Designer: Jozef Baláž **Engraver:** Rudolf Cigánik **Printing:** RD in sheets of 30 stamps and 40 labels. The stamp is multi-coloured, size 40x23mm and label printed brown-black, size 19x23mm.

Designs: Stamp-in the background a typical Slovak village house of wood with flying doves and logo of the Slovak Post Office, with a postman riding a bicycle in the foreground. Label - shows the Post Office building at Banská Bystrica and an historic letter box.

FDC: printed DS in blue-grey with commemorative Banská Bystrica cancellation. Cachet design includes the Bratislava coat of arms, doorway architecture from the old Post Office Building Bratislava post symbols and a mail carriage with team of horses.

12.1.99 19TH WORLD WINTER UNIVERSIAD GAMES AND 4TH EYOD

Designer: Ivan Schurmann **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider **Printing:** RD sheets of 30 stamps and 2x20 labels. Multi-coloured stamps with picture size 30x23mm.

Design: Stamp - winter sports participants against a winter background. Labels - alternating logos of the 19th World Winter Universiad Games and 4th European Youth Olympic Days.

FDC: printed DS in black with commemorative Poprad cancellation. Cachet design shows speed skaters.

28.1.99

PERSONALITIES



Designer: Jozef Baláž **Engravers:** (based on drawings by Martin Činovský) 3Sk - Rudolf Cigánik. 4Sk - František Horniak. 11Sk - Martin Činovský **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50, size 30x23mm.

Designs: **3Sk** - Portrait of Matej Bel with his name and dates 1684-1749. Bel was one of the foremost Slovak scholars of the 18th century. He was a polymath, teacher, historian, Lutheran pastor, translator and writer. He was a member of a number of learned societies outside Slovakia gaining recognition and respect beyond his homeland. **FDC;** - printed DS in yellow-brown with commemorative Bratislava cancellation. The cachet is a symbolic drawing of peace and learning motifs.

4Sk - Juraj Haulík portrait with his name and dates 1788-1869. He was born in Trnava studying there and later in Esztergom (where he became canon in 1825) and Vienna. From 1832 he was provost in Zagreb and became its first archbishop in 1852. He was made the first cardinal of Croatia in 1856 and died in Zagreb on 11 May 1869. **FDC** printed DS in grey-brown with commemorative Trnava cancellation. The cachet is a drawing of a town with a pair of outstretched hands holding a church building above.

11Sk - Portrait of Pavol Országh-Hviezdoslav with his name and dates 1849-1921. By profession he was a lawyer but was also famed for his writings particularly poetry and drama. He was a translator and promoted the Slovak language and an awareness of Slovak culture, **FDC** printed DS in grey-green-brown with commemorative Dolný Kubín cancellation. The symbolic cachet design is based on the poet's writings.

Postal Stationery

The following issues were detailed in Czechout 4/98 page 106 "Envelopes" with dates of issue unknown. These dates have been confirmed as below:-

a) Andrej Hlinka 20.7.98 b) Žilina University 9.9.98 c) Zohor Church 3.10.98 >

Promotional Postcards

The following cards have an imprinted 3Sk stamp in red, silver and blue, the design of which is the State Emblem. The address portion has the Slovak Post logo and retails at 3.50Sk.

- a) 14-16.8.98 Convention in the town of Turzovka for émigrés from all over the world who had links with the town. Design incorporates the coat of arms of the town with dates of the Convention, a stylised globe with dates 1598 and 1998 surrounded by the text "Svetové Stretnuté Turzovčanov" all on a blue background.
- b) 12.1.99(?) To publicise the 19th World Winter Universiad Games and 4th EYOD centre in Poprad-Tatry. The design has three stylised marmots wearing vests with the logos of the various Games. The card promotes Poprad as a candidate for the Winter Olympics 2006.
- c) 21-24.9.98 To promote Finex '98 held at Banská Bystrica on dates shown. The imprinted 3Sk stamp is the reverse side of an envelope with mountainscape in the lower half, Sk3 and the legend Slovensko above. The cachet is a view through a decorative window arch of the town square of Banská Bystrica. Text gives details of the event.

Maxi Cards

Cards have been produced for the following issues:

7.9.98	Nature Conservation - Fish
3.11.98	Christmas

PROVISIONAL ISSUES FOR THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC 1999

12 January	19 th Winter Universiad Games and 4 th EYOD	1 stamp + 2 tablets
28 January	Personalities	3 stamps
12 March	Splendours of Our Homeland - National Costumes	3 stamps + sheets x 10
12 March	125 th Anniversary of UOU	1 stamp
5 May	Europa - National Parks	2 stamps + 1 sheet
5 May	50 th Anniversary of Council of Europe	1 stamp
5 May	Spiritual Renewal	1 stamp
15 June	50 th Anniversary Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra	1 stamp
15 June	Senior Year	1 stamp
15 June	1 st Slovak Spaceman Flight	1 stamp
15 July	125 th Anniversary UPU	2 stamps
3 September	Bienale of Book Illustrations	1 stamp
3 September	50 th Anniversary Faculty of Fine Arts	1 stamp
21 September	Water Pillar Machine J.K.Hella	1 stamp
21 September	Nature Protection Singing Birds	3 stamps + blocks x 3
5 October	Art on Stamps	2 stamps + blocks x 4
5 October	Israeli-Slovak Edition A	1 stamp)
5 October	Israeli-Slovak Edition B	1 stamp) + block 4x4
3 November	Christmas	1 stamp
18 December	Stamp Day (A.Brunovský)	1 stamp + tablet